## HOUSE BILL 187

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| Short Title: | Modernize Physical Therapy Practice.                                    (Public) |

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| Sponsors: | Representatives Dollar, Torbett, S. Martin, and Dobson (Primary Sponsors). |
| | *For a complete list of sponsors, refer to the North Carolina General Assembly web site.* |

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| Referred to: | Health |

February 27, 2017

1        A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2   AN ACT UPDATING THE DEFINITION OF PHYSICAL THERAPY TO INCLUDE
3       MANIPULATION OF THE SPINE WITHOUT A PRESCRIPTION FROM A PHYSICIAN
4       LICENSED TO PRACTICE MEDICINE IN THIS STATE.
5   The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:
6           **SECTION 1.**  G.S. 90-270.24(4) reads as rewritten:
7   "(4)    "Physical therapy" means the evaluation or treatment of any person by the use
8                   of physical, chemical, or other properties of heat, light, water, electricity,
9                   sound, massage, or therapeutic exercise, or other rehabilitative procedures, with
10                  or without assistive devices, for the purposes of preventing, correcting, or
11                  alleviating a physical or mental disability. Physical therapy includes the
12                  performance of specialized tests of neuromuscular function, administration of
13                  specialized therapeutic procedures, interpretation and implementation of
14                  referrals from licensed medical doctors or dentists, and establishment and
15                  modification of physical therapy programs for patients. Evaluation and
16                  treatment of patients may involve physical measures, methods, or procedures as
17                  are found commensurate with physical therapy education and training and
18                  generally or specifically authorized by regulations of the Board. Physical
19                  therapy education and training shall include study of the skeletal manifestations
20                  of systemic disease. Physical therapy does not include the application of
21                  roentgen rays or radioactive materials, surgery, ~~manipulation of the spine unless~~
22                  ~~prescribed by a physician licensed to practice medicine in North Carolina,~~ or
23                  medical diagnosis of disease."
24          **SECTION 2.**  This act becomes effective October 1, 2017.