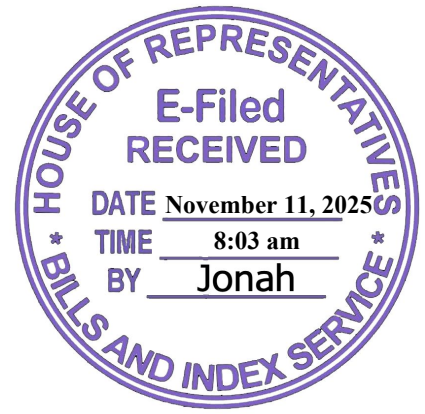


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 5797



Introduced by: **REP. SALVADOR A. PLEYTO, SR.**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The field of Physical Therapy (PT) is a vital component of the nation's healthcare system, contributing significantly to rehabilitation, pain management, and the overall quality of life for individuals with physical impairments. The current governing law, Republic Act No. 5680 (The Physical and Occupational Therapy Law), was enacted decades ago and no longer fully addresses the complexities, advanced scope of practice, and globalization of the profession.

This proposed measure, the Physical Therapy Act of 2025, aims to modernize the regulation of the profession. It seeks to strengthen the standards of physical therapy education and training, professionalize the licensure examination, and clarify and expand the scope of practice to align with international best practices. It establishes a more effective Professional Regulatory Board of Physical Therapy (PRB-PT) under the Professional Regulation Commission (PRC) to enforce ethical and technical standards.

Furthermore, this Act addresses contemporary issues such as the regulation of specialization, continuing professional development (CPD), and the accountability of physical therapists. The passage of this Bill is crucial to ensure that the Filipino public receives high-quality, safe, and effective physical therapy services from globally competitive professionals.

In view of the foregoing, the immediate consideration of this Bill is earnestly sought.


SALVADOR A. PLEYTO, SR.

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 5797

Introduced by: **REP. SALVADOR A. PLEYTO, SR.**

**AN ACT REGULATING THE REGISTRATION, LICENSURE, AND PRACTICE OF
PHYSICAL THERAPY, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

*Be it enacted by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Philippines in
Congress assembled:*

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* - This Act shall be known as the “Physical Therapy
Act of 2025.”

SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* - The State recognizes the importance of
physical therapy in promoting, restoring, and maintaining health, function, and
quality of life. It is the policy of the State to regulate the practice of physical
therapy to ensure the competence, integrity, and ethical conduct of physical
therapists, thereby protecting the public from unqualified practitioners.

SEC. 3. *Definition of Terms.* - For the purpose of this Act, the following
terms shall mean:

- (a) Physical Therapy - The art and science of evaluating, examining, and
treating physical impairments, functional limitations, and disabilities
by physical means. This includes, but is not limited to, therapeutic
exercise, manual therapy, electrotherapy, and other physical
modalities.
- (b) Physical Therapist - A person who is licensed and registered to practice
physical therapy in the Philippines.
- (c) Physical Therapist Assistant - A person who assists a physical therapist
in the delivery of physical therapy services under the supervision of a
licensed physical therapist.

(d) Board - The Professional Regulatory Board of Physical Therapy.

(e) Commission - The Professional Regulation Commission (PRC).

SEC. 4. *Creation and Composition of the Board.* - There is hereby created a Professional Regulatory Board of Physical Therapy under the supervision and control of the PRC. The Board shall be composed of a Chairperson and two (2) members, all of whom shall be appointed by the President of the Philippines from a list of recommendees submitted by the PRC.

SEC.5. *Qualifications of Board Members.* - Each member of the Board shall:

- (a) Be a citizen and resident of the Philippines;
- (b) Be a duly registered physical therapist with a valid certificate of registration and professional license;
- (c) Have practiced physical therapy for at least five (5) years prior to appointment;
- (d) Not be a member of the faculty of any school, college, or university offering a degree in physical therapy; nor have any pecuniary interest in, or administrative supervision over any such institutions.

SEC. 6. *Powers and Functions of the Board.* - The Board shall have the following powers and functions:

- (a) Promulgate and administer rules and regulations necessary for carrying out the provisions of this Act;
- (b) Supervise the registration, licensure, and practice of physical therapy in the Philippines;
- (c) Conduct licensure examinations for physical therapists;
- (d) Issue, suspend, revoke, or reinstate certificates of registration and professional licenses for the practice of physical therapy;
- (e) Investigate violations of this Act and the rules and regulations promulgated hereunder;
- (f) Promulgate a Code of Ethics and Standards of Practice for physical therapists in the Philippines;
- (g) Ensure that all educational institutions offering physical therapy programs comply with the standards and requirements prescribed by the Commission on Higher Education (CHED);

(h) Perform such other functions and duties as may be necessary to effectively implement this Act.

SEC. 7. *Licensure Examination.* - All applicants for registration as physical therapists shall be required to pass a licensure examination to be given by the Board in such places and dates as the Commission may designate.

SEC. 8. *Qualifications for Examination.* An applicant for the licensure examination shall:

- (a) Be a citizen of the Philippines;
- (b) Be of good moral character;
- (c) Be a graduate of a Bachelor of Science in Physical Therapy or its equivalent from a school, college, or university duly recognized by the government.

SEC. 9. *Scope of Examination.* - The licensure examination for physical therapists shall cover the following subjects:

- (a) Basic Sciences (Anatomy, Physiology, Kinesiology)
- (b) Medical and Surgical Conditions
- (c) Physical Therapy Evaluation
- (d) Treatment Planning and Implementation
- (e) Ethics and Professional Practice

SEC. 10. *Registration.* - All those who have passed the licensure examination shall be registered as physical therapists and shall be issued a certificate of registration and a professional license upon payment of the prescribed fees.

SEC. 11. *Scope of Practice.* - A licensed physical therapist shall have the right to:

- (a) Evaluate, examine, and treat patients with physical impairments, functional limitations, and disabilities;
- (b) Develop and implement treatment plans using physical therapy modalities and techniques;
- (c) Supervise physical therapist assistants and other support personnel;
- (d) Participate in research and education related to physical therapy;
- (e) Engage in private practice, provided that they comply with all applicable laws and regulations.

SEC. 12. *Prohibited Acts.* - It shall be unlawful for any person to:

- (a) Practice physical therapy without a valid certificate of registration and professional license;
- (b) Represent oneself as a physical therapist without being duly registered and licensed;
- (c) Use a revoked or suspended certificate of registration and professional license;
- (d) Violate any provision of this Act or the rules and regulations promulgated hereunder.

SEC. 13. *Penalties.* Any person who violates any provision of this Act or the rules and regulations promulgated hereunder shall be subject to a fine of not less than Fifty Thousand Pesos (Php 50,000.00) but not more than Two Hundred Thousand Pesos (Php 200,000.00), or imprisonment of not less than one (1) year but not more than five (5) years, or both, at the discretion of the court.

SEC. 14. *Appropriations.* The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be included in the General Appropriations Act of the year following its enactment into law and thereafter.

SEC. 15. *Implementing Rules and Regulations* – Within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Professional Regulatory Board of Physical Therapy and the appropriate government agencies shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

SEC. 16. *Separability Clause.* - If any provision of this Act is held invalid or unconstitutional, the other provisions not affected thereby shall remain valid and operative.

SEC. 17. *Repealing Clause.* - All laws, decrees, orders, rules, and regulations, or parts thereof, inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

SEC. 18. *Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,