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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2025

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A N A C T

RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- PHYSICAL THERAPISTS

Introduced By: Senators Gallo, DiPalma, Tikoian, LaMountain, Murray, and Lawson

Date Introduced: February 07, 2025

Referred To: Senate Health & Human Services

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1           SECTION 1. Section 5-40-23 of the General Laws in Chapter 5-40 entitled "Physical  
2 Therapists" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3           **5-40-23. ~~Ordering diagnostic imaging~~ — Sunset Ordering diagnostic imaging.**

4           (a) Physical therapists licensed pursuant to § 5-40-7 may order diagnostic imaging as  
5 defined in § 5-40-1 to be performed and interpreted by other licensed healthcare professionals.

6           (b) All diagnostic imaging tests ordered by a physical therapist shall be reported by the  
7 physical therapist to the patient's designated primary care physician of record within seven (7) days  
8 following receipt of the results. This reporting shall not be required if the patient does not have a  
9 primary care physician.

10           (c) Managed healthcare plans shall provide a utilization report to the general assembly no  
11 later than September 1, 2022, and annually thereafter.

12           ~~(d) Unless extended by the general assembly, physical therapists shall not be authorized to~~  
13 ~~order diagnostic imaging as an authorized practice of physical therapy after December 31, 2025.~~

14           SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF  
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RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- PHYSICAL THERAPISTS

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1           This act would permit physical therapists to continue to order diagnostic imaging as an  
2 authorized practice of physical therapy beyond December 31, 2025.

3           This act would take effect upon passage.

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