

RE-AFFIRMATION OF STANDARDS TO PRACTICE ACUPUNCTURE

The Acupuncture Board is aware of recent controversies regarding which health professionals are allowed to lawfully practice acupuncture in the State of Texas. It is the longstanding position of the Acupuncture Board that only individuals with Texas Acupuncture Licenses and licensed Texas Physicians are authorized to lawfully practice acupuncture in Texas. This position is drawn from the plain statutory language of the law as enacted by the Texas Legislature.

In order to protect the public and insure the safe practice of acupuncture, the Texas legislature established rigorous requirements for acupuncture licensing, including the requirement that applicants take no less than 1,800 instructional hours at reputable acupuncture schools in the subjects of anatomy-histology, bacteriology, physiology, symptomatology, pathology, meridian and point locations, hygiene, and public health.

The Acupuncture Board believes that the legislature clearly limited the practice of acupuncture to those individuals who meet the educational and training requirements required by the Acupuncture Act and that individuals lacking required acupuncture training do not have the requisite skills to safely and effectively practice acupuncture.

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NOTE: The Board has approved this statement of support. The signatures are still being collected at this time.