BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center 76R8780 T

S.B. 1347 By: Lindsay Health Services 4/26/1999 As Filed

DIGEST

Currently, physical therapists and physical therapist assistants are required to obtain a specifically mandated number of continuing education units (CEUs) as a prerequisite to licensure renewal each biennium (three and two, respectively). The Texas Board of Physical Therapy Examiners' agency support staff evaluates and approves programs offering CEUs. Allowing this function to be outsourced will not only allow agency staff to be available for other duties, but can also be expected to enhance the quality of the CEU programs. S.B. 1347 would authorize the evaluation and approval of continuing education for physical therapists.

PURPOSE

As proposed, S.B. 1347 authorizes the evaluation and approval of continuing education for physical therapists.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

This bill does not grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Section 16A, Article 4512e, V.T.C.S., to require the Board of Physical Therapy Examiners to authorize licensee peer organizations to evaluate and approve continuing education courses in accordance with the established process.

SECTION 2. Emergency clause.

Effective date: upon passage.