

SB232/HB172

Bill: Maryland [SB232/HB172](#) Health Occupations - Licensed Athletic Trainers - Dry Needling

Indication: opposed (UNF)

Name & Address:

Laura King LAc, RDN, LDN

4112 Boteler Road

Mount Airy, MD 2171

I'm writing this letter of opposition (UNF) for bill SB232/HB172. As a student of Chinese Medicine, finishing up the Doctoral program in 4 weeks, I can say that after spending 1800 hours learning, with more than 300 hours in the clinic treating, I have only begun to scratch the surface of scholarship when it comes to this medicine.

Dry needling is acupuncture, and to allow Athletic Trainers to perform this skill with only 80 hours of training not only pales in comparison to what is required to practice Chinese medicine safely and effectively but seems both a risk and liability for the patients they will serve.

I therefore align with the consideration that the standards of education and training should be as rigorous as what is required for physicians who use acupuncture needles for similar therapeutic purposes, in order to protect the public and ensure the integrity and value of Traditional Chinese medicine is upheld.

Thank you for your consideration.

Warm regards,

Laura King, LAc, RDN, LDN