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Exempt Action Final Regulation Agency Background Document

Agency name	Board of Physical Therapy, Department of Health Professions
Virginia Administrative Code (VAC) citation(s)	18VAC112-20-10 et seq.
Regulation title(s)	Regulations Governing the Practice of Physical Therapy
Action title	Changes to direct access certification
Final agency action date	August 11, 2015
Date this document prepared	August 11, 2015

When a regulatory action is exempt from executive branch review pursuant to § 2.2-4002 or § 2.2-4006 of the Virginia Administrative Process Act (APA) or an agency's basic statute, the agency is not required, however, is encouraged to provide information to the public on the Regulatory Town Hall using this form. Note: While posting this form on the Town Hall is optional, the agency must comply with requirements of the Virginia Register Act, Executive Orders 17 (2014) and 58 (1999), and the *Virginia Register Form, Style, and Procedure Manual*.

Brief summary

Please provide a brief summary of the proposed new regulation, proposed amendments to the existing regulation, or the regulation proposed to be repealed. Alert the reader to all substantive matters or changes. If applicable, generally describe the existing regulation.

With the passage of HB1457 and Senate776 in the 2015 General Assembly, the Board is required to amend its regulations relating to requirement for a direct access certification to see patients for physical therapy without a referral. Regulations are amended to eliminate the qualification of doctorate in physical therapy, because practitioners with that degree no longer have to obtain direct access certification. Amendments are also adopted to delete the requirement for continuing education relating to carrying out direct access duties and to delete the requirement for renewal direct access certification and the fee for renewal.

Statement of final agency action

Please provide a statement of the final action taken by the agency including: 1) the date the action was taken; 2) the name of the agency taking the action; and 3) the title of the regulation.

On August 11, 2015, the Board of Physical Therapy amended 18VAC112-20-10 et seq., Regulations Governing the Practice of Physical Therapy.

Family impact

Please assess the impact of this regulatory action on the institution of the family and family stability including to what extent the regulatory action will: 1) strengthen or erode the authority and rights of parents in the education, nurturing, and supervision of their children; 2) encourage or discourage economic self-sufficiency, self-pride, and the assumption of responsibility for oneself, one's spouse, and one's children and/or elderly parents; 3) strengthen or erode the marital commitment; and 4) increase or decrease disposable family income.

There is no impact on the family.