



April 28, 2022

To: NSATA Members

**From: NSATA Executive Board
NSATA Governmental Affairs Committee**

Regarding: Update on LB 436

Good morning! As most of you are likely aware, LB 436 passed and was signed by Governor Ricketts in the final days of the 2022 Legislative Session. This is a momentous occasion for all Athletic Trainers in Nebraska. It is the culmination of four (4) years of hard work by many committed and talented NSATA members. Thanks to everyone who wrote letters, contacted their Senators, testified and/or supported the 407 Work Group and Governmental Affairs Committees as we worked through the process.

As we look ahead, there are questions that we have heard and we are hoping to address many of those here. We will also plan to provide an update at the Summer Meeting in June and will likely work with COPA to develop webinars for late summer and fall. These webinars will target the updates and implementation of those updates into practice.

The bill has been signed, and by Nebraska Law will go into effect three (3) calendar months after the last day of the 2022 session. The last day of the 2022 session was April 20, so July 21 will be the date that the Practice Act will go into effect. Until that time, all athletic trainers are still practicing under the existing practice act. Nothing changes with regards to the updates that exist within the new practice act, and AT's are not allowed to implement changes until after the bill becomes law.

Rules and Regulations still need to be developed by the Department of Health and Human Services. Specifically, the practice act calls for the promulgation of rules and regulations related to emergency drugs (28-408(2)) and dry needling (38-408(3)). Until these are written and in place, ATs in Nebraska are not allowed to dry needle or acquire or administer emergency drugs per our existing practice act. The soonest that we would be able to do these things will be July 21. We will keep you apprised of the status of the rules and regulations, specifically as they relate to these areas. Additionally, while we are not certain, there may be specific education requirements associated with Dry Needling. As such, we would caution against allocating resources/finances towards education until we know what the rules and regulations are going to require.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to any member of the Executive Board or Rusty McKune, Chair of the Governmental Affairs Committee.

The following are GAC contacts for the NSATA. Please feel free to reach out to Rusty if you have any questions!

NSATA Governmental Affairs Chair:

Rusty McKune
Email- gov@nsata.org
Phone: 402-250-5720

NSATA Lobbyist:

Colleen Nielsen
Husch Blackwell Strategies

NSATA GAC Committee Members:

Stacy Dahlkoetter
Jason Ensrud
Cassie Metzner
Andrew Sheridan
Sam Wilkins