



Beth Israel Deaconess  
Medical Center



A MAJOR TEACHING HOSPITAL  
OF HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL

**Ted J Kaptchuk**

**Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center**

*Director, Program in Placebo Studies & Therapeutic Encounter*

**Harvard Medical School**

*Professor of Medicine*

*Professor of Global Health and Social Medicine*

19 July, 2017

Re: **Senate Bill S1182**

Dear Legislator:

I am writing to encourage your support of Senate Bill S1182. I currently serve as Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School as well as Professor of Social Medicine and Global Health. I was one of the first Americans to be trained in acupuncture and herbal medicine in China and have authored several well-known textbooks. I have spent several decades doing research into the efficacy of acupuncture and into placebo effects and therefore feel qualified to comment on the bill in question.

Acupuncture requires extensive training and only those who have completed the exams and demonstrated their competency should be permitted to practice. Allowing untrained practitioners poses a threat to patient safety. I therefore urge you to pass S1182 in order to preserve the integrity of acupuncture care and to protect the people of the Commonwealth.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ted J. Kaptchuk".

Ted J Kaptchuk  
Professor of Medicine