

Submitter: Katharine Holmer  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3824  
Chair Nosse, Vice Chairs Nelson and Javadi:

My name is Kate (Katharine) Holmer and I am a physical therapist practicing in the state of Oregon. I have been licensed in Oregon since 2017 and exclusively practiced in Oregon, actively treating in the orthopedic, sports, and pelvic health realms. HB 3824 will bring Oregon's Physical Therapists up to meet national best practices to enhance patient safety, improve accessibility, and reduce healthcare costs.

I'm asking you to support HB 3824 so that Oregon can:

- Allow the practice of physical therapy to meet standards available in the majority of other states, specifically use of needles to provide relief from pain and expedited improvement in impairments, which is a treatment option that is available in 45 other states, but currently not available in Oregon.
- Allow physical therapists to certify a patient's disability placard or license plate application, helping to ensure adequate and timely accommodations amid a shortage of providers. Physical therapists in 13 other states currently hold this privilege.
- Improve access to and timeliness of patient imaging by allowing PTs to order and interpret imaging. The Doctorate level of education, which is now standard across the nation, was in part progressed from a Master's of Science to DPT to include training in imaging review and assessment, thus HB 3824 would align with that educational standard while improving timeliness for patients and contribute to improved outcomes.
- Protects the title "Doctor of Physical Therapy or DPT" to ensure safety of our patients and eliminate confusion in the rehab and fitness world by allowing only those holding a doctoral degree in physical therapy to use this title and abbreviation.

Please support HB 3824 to continue to promote and progress the practice of Physical Therapy in the state of Oregon.

Sincerely,  
Kate Holmer, DPT  
ICE certified : pelvic health