

Submitter: Tanya Schaefer

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3824

As both a patient of DPTs and a parent of a dancer who has been treated by a Portland DPT for years, I strongly support HB 3824 and urge its passage.

All aspects of this bill will improve both the quality and timeliness of patient care, decrease costs, increase access to care in a stressed and under-resourced health care system, and take advantage of physical therapists' extensive training without negatively affecting either patients or other health care providers.

1. Allowing physical therapists to order diagnostic imaging saves time for the patient and health care providers who otherwise have to go back and forth requesting orders, etc.

2. Allowing physical therapists to prescribe durable medical equipment also saves time for the patient, and allows for immediate offloading or immobilization as medically indicated rather than requiring referrals and additional appointments.

3. The use of DPT should absolutely be restricted to Doctors of Physical Therapy.

4. My child received indicated dry needling from a physical therapist out of state which, in conjunction with other DPT-provided treatment, improved their condition and was able to be done as part of their regular care from that physical therapist rather than trying to find another provider and fit another appointment into their busy schedule. It's unlikely they would have gotten this particular treatment without it being available from their DPT.