

Submitter: Kathryn Rodriguez
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3824

Dear Chair and Members of the Senate Committee on Health Care,

My name is Katie, and I'm writing in strong support of HB 3824. The Oregon Physical Therapy Practice Act hasn't been updated in over 20 years—and we have the opportunity to change that today at 3 p.m, joining other states in their greater ability to serve patients.

This bill modernizes scope of practice by allowing physical therapists to:

1. Order diagnostic imaging like x-rays when appropriate
2. Prescribe durable medical equipment such as crutches
3. Protect our DPT credentials—Doctor of Physical Therapy—from misuse
4. Certify disability parking applications for patients
5. Include dry needling as part of our therapeutic toolkit

Allowing physical therapists these tools and abilities reduces critical care times and costs for patients. With costs rising everywhere else, it's imperative we reduce costs wherever possible and especially to those who need our support the most. These updates bring Oregon in line with national standards and help us better serve patients, especially in underserved areas. Our profession is ready—now we need your support.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Katie
Gresham, Oregon