

Submitter: Molly Morey
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3824

Molly Morey, PT, DPT
Outpatient Orthopedic Physical Therapist
mmorey@wbhpt.com | 503-703-1392

To: Oregon House Committee on Behavioral Health and Health Care
Re: Support for HB 3824A – The PT Modernization Act

Dear Chair Nosse, Vice-Chairs Goodwin and Nelson, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Molly Morey, and I am a licensed physical therapist practicing in an outpatient orthopedic setting in Oregon. I am writing in strong support of HB 3824A, the PT Modernization Act, because it offers essential updates to the Physical Therapy Practice Act that will enhance patient access to care and reduce unnecessary healthcare delays and costs.

One of the most practical and impactful provisions in this bill is the ability for physical therapists to order diagnostic imaging when clinically necessary. In my daily practice, I often encounter situations where I suspect a patient requires imaging to proceed safely and effectively with treatment. However, under current law, I must refer the patient back to a physician solely for the purpose of ordering an image. This detour often results in an additional appointment, delayed care, and extra financial burden on the patient—all without adding clinical value.

Oregonians deserve a healthcare system that prioritizes efficiency, clinical judgment, and access to timely care. As a doctorally trained physical therapist, I am fully equipped to determine when imaging is warranted and to use that information to guide appropriate treatment. HB 3824A would allow me to provide more seamless, patient-centered care while reducing redundancy and unnecessary costs.

Modernizing our practice act aligns with how physical therapy is practiced across many other states and reflects the current level of education and responsibility held by licensed PTs. It also helps retain skilled providers in Oregon by allowing us to work to the full extent of our training and licensure.

I urge you to pass HB 3824A. This legislation is a thoughtful, necessary update that will benefit patients, providers, and the overall healthcare system in Oregon.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Molly Morey, PT, DPT
mmorey@wbhpt.com