

Submitter: Keith Valachi

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3824

I am a practicing dentist in Oregon, with a focus on managing Sleep Apnea and TMJ. I refer to local Physical Therapy practices and greatly appreciate the skillset that they possess in service to our mutual patients.

I support HB3824 that would allow for expanded practice parameters including the ability to prescribe DME for their patients - this makes a great deal of sense to me since the therapist will know better than anyone else the DME that each individual patient would require to support their therapeutic goals. I am also hopeful that our extremely well-trained "muscle specialists" will be able to provide dry needling for myofascial trigger points as part of their therapeutic regimen. I currently inject such trigger points and other orofacial structures to alleviate pain, but our referred patients would have greater access to this valuable treatment as part of a series of PT visits. This will likely allow for a more frequent intervention and significantly improved patient treatment outcomes. In my opinion, PTs are the best trained and most appropriate doctors to provide these services, and I am pleased to write in support of this House bill.

Thank you,

Keith Valachi DDS
Oregon Sleep and TMJ