

Submitter: Angela Cain
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3824
To: House Committee on Behavioral Health and Health Care
Oregon State Legislature

RE: Support for HB 3824A - The PT Practice Act Modernization

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

My name is Angela Cain, PTA, ATC, and I am writing in strong support of HB 3824A, the Physical Therapy Practice Act Modernization Bill. I currently practice at Mountain Valley Therapy in eastern Oregon, where I work closely with physical therapists and patients across a wide range of rehabilitation needs.

As a licensed physical therapist assistant with dual credentials as an athletic trainer, I witness daily the practical challenges imposed by outdated supervision ratios. HB 3824A provides a timely, thoughtful update to Oregon's PT statutes that better aligns with how care is delivered today. By modernizing definitions, revising supervision structures, and streamlining terminology, this bill will enhance the clarity, efficiency, and responsiveness of our profession without compromising patient safety.

In rural clinics like ours, where workforce shortages are a constant concern, the ability to work at the top of our training and licensure is critical. HB 3824A recognizes this by allowing physical therapists to determine appropriate PTA supervision ratios based on their clinical judgment and the complexity of care. This respects the expertise of PTs while empowering PTAs to contribute more fully to patient outcomes.

Importantly, the bill also brings Oregon law in line with national standards and the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy model language, ensuring we remain consistent with current best practices. This matters for recruitment, retention, and interstate mobility—especially as we face a growing demand for rehabilitation services across the lifespan.

I urge you to support HB 3824A and help ensure that Oregon's physical therapy workforce can operate with the flexibility, accountability, and clarity we need to serve our communities effectively.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

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