

Submitter:	Callyn Bihr
On Behalf Of:	PT profession and patients
Committee:	Senate Committee On Health Care
Measure, Appointment or Topic:	HB3824

As a physical therapist practicing in Oregon, passage of HB 3824 is vitally important because it recognizes the vital role that PTs play in Oregon's health care system and the rigorous training, education, and experience that PTs bring to serve our patients. Personally, passage of HB 3824 would improve my ability to serve patients.

HB 3824A aligns the practice of physical therapy in Oregon with the Model Practice Act established by the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy – in some cases, like dry needling, expanding care that is available in 46 other states, but currently not available in Oregon. I was a physical therapist in Montana where dry needling is allowed and certified in dry needling for several years. It was a very beneficial treatment for many diagnoses and gives physical therapists an additional tool to utilize in the care of their patients with musculoskeletal symptoms. Some groups feel that physical therapists do not have enough training for this treatment. The training received for dry needling, even though a long weekend course, is using the 3 years of previous education received while obtaining our doctoral degree, specifically in anatomy and physiology and movement pathologies to assist this training.

HB 3824A would allow physical therapists to certify a patient's disability placard or license plate application. This ability is vitally important especially given Oregon's shortage of providers and can help ensure that patients get adequate accommodations quickly and without unnecessary delay.

HB 3824A would improve access, particularly in rural communities, to and timeliness of patient imaging by allowing PTs to order and interpret imaging. Over 10 other states have taken this action to help reduce patient cost burdens and improve patient outcomes by ensuring timeliness of care.

Ensures patient safety by protecting the title "Doctor of Physical Therapy or DPT" to ensure that only those holding a doctoral degree in physical therapy are permitted to use this title and abbreviation.

Enhances patient safety by adopting statutory language included in the PT Model Practice Act related to sexual misconduct to ensure that the PT licensing board has appropriate authority related to misconduct that is verbal, physical, and also through electronic means.

Please support HB3824A and support physical therapy in Oregon. Help us help our

patients to a greater ability.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Callyn Bihr, DPT, CLT