

Submitter:	Kaitlyn Schlueter
On Behalf Of:	Improved patient access to care
Committee:	Senate Committee On Health Care
Measure, Appointment or Topic:	HB3824

To whom it may concern,

As a physical therapist practicing in Oregon, passage of HB 3824 is vitally important because it recognizes the vital role that physical therapists play in Oregon's health care system, in addition to the rigorous training, education, and experience that the profession brings to serve our patients.

Personally, passage of HB 3824 would improve my ability to serve patients by improving not only direct access to services that I am trained to provide, but will likely serve an indirect role in saving valuable healthcare dollars and patient time.

HB3824A aligns the practice of physical therapy in Oregon with the Model Practice Act established by the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy. One specific example of this is to include dry needling as a service that physical therapists can provide and receive reimbursement for, expanding care that is available in 46 others states, but currently not available in Oregon.

HB3824A 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.

HB3824A 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.

HB3824A would help to ensure patient safety and understanding of provider training, 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.

HB3824A would enhance 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.

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May 6, 2025