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May 7, 2025

Chair Nosse and Members of the House Committee on Behavioral Health and Health Care,

My name is Julie Peterson, and I am a licensed physical therapist with over two decades of experience treating patients in private practice. I am writing to express my support for **HB 3824A**, the Physical Therapy Modernization Act.

In more than 20 years of clinical work, I have witnessed firsthand how unnecessary regulatory hurdles can delay care and limit access for patients. Having been trained in and practiced Trigger Point Dry Needling (in multiple other states where allowed by our profession)—I know how essential it is for our profession to operate under a scope of practice that reflects modern, evidence-based treatment methods.

HB 3824A is not about expanding what physical therapists *do*—it's about aligning Oregon's legal definitions with the standards of today's practice. Our current laws still rely on antiquated descriptions of physical therapy that don't acknowledge widely adopted interventions like dry needling. This disconnect creates confusion for insurers, restricts innovation in care delivery, and slows down treatment for Oregonians who are eager to return to work, sport, and daily life.

This bill affirms what the profession has already proven: that physical therapists provide safe, effective, and autonomous care grounded in years of education and clinical judgment. Modernizing our statute will ensure the law keeps pace with the profession—without increasing costs or jeopardizing patient safety.

I urge you to vote yes on HB 3824A. Let's bring Oregon's physical therapy statute into the 21st century and give providers like me the clarity and tools we need to serve our communities.

Thank you for your time and thoughtful consideration.

Sincerely,

Julie Peterson, MPT

Private Practice, Bend, OR
