

Submitter: Melissa Forsyth
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3824

Dear Committee Chairs:

I am an Oregon resident, and I am writing to urge you to support HB3824. As a healthcare consumer in the state, allowing physical therapists to order diagnostic imaging and durable medical equipment would improve access to care and facilitate prompt diagnosis.

Within the current medical landscape, if I were to see my PT for an injury and they determine I need imaging or DME like crutches, I would have to make another appointment with either my PCP, urgent care, or go to the ER (at a high cost to me). I've had to do this personally. This dramatically increases the time and money I have to spend on and in the medical system, all for something that my PT, an expert, is perfectly well-equipped to handle. Obtaining a prescription for imaging directly from my physical therapist would save me time and money. At least 13 other states already allow physical therapists to provide this level of care and given their doctoral level training in anatomy, pathology, and differential diagnosis, it is appropriate and in-line with established practice.

I urge you to support HB3824 to improve access to quality care for all Oregonians.
Thank you.