

Honorable Chair Anderson and Senate Health Care Committee members:

My name is Megan Sutley. I currently reside in Cedar Mill and work as a Certified Athletic Trainer at Orthopedic and Fracture Specialists in Beaverton. I am writing to illustrate my full support regarding SB742.

I fully support SB742 as the proposed updates will help Athletic Trainers within the state of Oregon to become valued members of the overall healthcare team. The bill would be a more accurate representation of the level of education and skill possessed by Certified Athletic Trainers and their ability to evaluate and treat musculoskeletal injuries. Traditionally, Athletic Trainers worked primarily with sports teams/clubs and interscholastic teams. Recently, the requirement to become a Certified Athletic Trainer has changed from a Bachelors in Athletic Training to requiring a Masters in Athletic Training. This has help field of Athletic Training to emerge and continue to grow and expand into new settings across the United States. Athletic Trainers are currently employed with the military, NASA, physician practices, and large corporations to include Telsa, Tillamook Cheese Factory, and Kettle Chips. As the educational requirements and job settings involve so should our State Practice Act in order to properly represent the profession of Athletic Training.

The healthcare system is currently placing a larger emphasis on preventative medicine and I believe that athletic trainers have the ability to provide these types of services to all populations, not just athletes. I believe that the restriction of access to healthcare for certain populations is detriment to community health. I hope that the profession of Athletic Training can become a larger part of the solution by working in a multitude of different settings allowing Athletic Trainers to facilitate all patients within the healthcare system.

I hope that this letter helps the Committee to better understand the background Athletic Trainers and their ability to treat a wide variety of populations. I hope that you will vote to support SB742.

I sincerely appreciate the time, effort, and consideration provided by the Committee and hope that they and the profession of Athletic Training can work together to provide a healthier future for Oregon. Thank you for all you do for our great state.

Sincerely,

Megan Sutley, M.S. ATC, OTC  
14800 NW Cornell Road,  
Portland, OR 97229