

Submitter: Karen Walz
On Behalf Of: APTA Oregon and rural Physical Therapist
Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3134

Dear Oregon Legislators-

Please include Physical Therapy (Physical Therapists/Physical Therapist Assistants) in this important bill.

As a rural healthcare provider in coastal Oregon, eliminating and reducing access burden's to care is critical to caring for our often very sick patients. They often have multiple complex healthcare disorders, have limited transportation or have to travel long distances to attend Physical Therapy sessions. This bill would allow my patients to not have to worry about a needless interruption of care by arbitrary hurdles and limits of prior authorization. Some patients in the past have just given up and stopped attending their necessary Physical Therapy visits when additional authorization cuts short their needed Physical Therapy rehabilitation. Leading the patient to potentially feel more stressed/anxious, less functionally independent and with lingering pain and other symptoms.

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Physical Therapist