

Submitter: Taylor DeKoning
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3824

As a student physical therapist in Oregon, I believe passage of HB 3824 is vitally important because it recognizes the essential role PTs play in our health care system and the rigorous education and training we go through to serve patients. As I prepare to enter the profession, this bill would empower me and my future colleagues to provide more comprehensive and timely care — including ordering imaging and performing evidence-based treatments like dry needling — without unnecessary delays that can impact patient outcomes, especially in rural and underserved communities. HB 3824A aligns Oregon with national standards, expands access to care, allows PTs to certify disability placard applications to help ease provider shortages, and enhances patient safety by protecting the title "Doctor of Physical Therapy" or "DPT." This bill is a crucial step to improve access, outcomes, and safety for patients across Oregon.