

STATE REPRESENTATIVE NETWORK, AASPT  
2019 – 1st quarter report

The following is an overview of the information collected by the State Representative Network. The states not listed do not currently have a State Representative to the SPTS. If you are interested in serving as a State Representative for the Section, please contact Greg Alnwick at [galnwick@ne.rr.com](mailto:galnwick@ne.rr.com) or (603) 466-5972.

Arkansas	Montana	New Mexico	Rhode Island
Vermont	Washington	West Virginia	

I'd like to also welcome and say a special thank you to our newest member(s), McKenzie Bane (Washington DC) and Bryan Clary (Tennessee). Your time is greatly appreciated.

**ALABAMA – Representative: Andrea Johnson**

- Legislation will be introduced beginning on March 3<sup>rd</sup> that will remove the referral language from the practice act.
  - HB 50 Sponsored by Representative Ron Johnson
  - SB 25 Sponsored by Senator Jim McClendon
- Both bills will be introduced into the Health Committee of their respective houses.
- Currently BCBS of Alabama is not supportive of the bills. Efforts are being made to set up a meeting with between ALAPTA and BCBS to provide data and rationale for this legislative endeavor

**ALASKA – Representative: Rebecca Byerley**

- Nothing to report.

**ARIZONA – Representative: John Heick**

- Nothing to report.

**ARKANSAS – Representative: VACANT**

- No report submitted.

**CALIFORNIA--Representative: Andrew Saldivar**

- Nothing to report.

**COLORADO – Representative: Brian Briggs**

- Nothing to report.

**CONNECTICUT--Representative: Peg Grey**

- Nothing to report.

**DELAWARE – Representative: Angela Smith**

- Delaware recently updated its Rules & Regulations as it pertains to the examination process for physical therapist and physical therapist assistant applicants. Specifically, subsection 7.3.1.3 gives the Board the discretion to identify a third-party as its authorized designee to approve applicants to sit for the examination. In addition, subsection 7.3.1.3.1 authorizes a physical therapist student or physical therapist assistant student to take the examination up to 90 days prior to graduation from a CAPTE accredited program.

## DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA- Representative: McKenzie Bane

- CSM 2019 took place Jan 23-26 with over 16,700 PTs, PTAs, and PT/PTA students attending.
- CSM 2020 will be Feb 12-15 in Denver, Colorado.
  - Education Sessions submission deadline: Wednesday, March 20
  - Submission website & info: <https://apta.confex.com/apta/csm2020/cfs.cgi>
  - Research Posters and Platforms submission deadline: Friday, July 12
  - Submission website & info: <https://apta.confex.com/apta/csm2020/cfp.cgi>
- The 2019 Federal Advocacy Forum will take place from Sunday, March 31 – Tuesday, April 2 at the JW Marriott near the White House in Washington, DC.
  - Discussion of regulatory affairs and federal priorities that impact the PT profession.
  - Networking opportunities among members, members of Congress and can speak with their representatives about issues their state and profession is facing.
  - Registration deadline: March 18.
  - More details: <http://www.apta.org/FederalForum/>

## FLORIDA – Representative: Patrick Pabian

- Dry needling was recently ruled as not being within the scope of practice of physical therapy, according to a recent ruling by the Florida Division of Administrative Hearings. In 2017, the Florida Board of Physical Therapy issued a declaratory statement declaring that dry needling was within the scope of practice and outlined requirements for the practice of dry needling. However, this was challenged by the Florida State Oriental Medical Association in summer of 2018. A final hearing ensued in July 2018, and physical therapy was represented by FL Board and Florida Physical Therapy Association legal representation. Numerous physical therapists, who are national leaders in the practice of dry needling presented testimony of their practice in other states. However, the judge ruled that the Florida practice act for physical therapy does not support dry needling. The judge final determination can be read at <https://www.doah.state.fl.us/ROS/2018/18002508.pdf>.

## GEORGIA – Representative: Ross Brakeville

- No report submitted.

## HAWAII – Representative: Ryan Moore

- House Bill 701 (HB701) was submitted to the Hawaii State House of Representatives for review in January 2019, pertaining to an amendment to the current state practice act that prevents PTs from performing dry needling techniques and therapies. The current practice act prevents PTs from breaking or puncturing good skin integrity, such as through surgery or injection. The current version of the bill recommends that the legislative reference bureau to conduct a study of the laws and regulations regarding dry needling in other states as they pertain to the practice of PTs before proceeding.
- Beginning with the 2021-22 licensing biennium, all course content, as well as the exam questions for all ethics, laws, and rules (jurisprudence) courses, must be solely on Hawaii's PT statutes and rules.

## IDAHO – Representative: Kyle Sela

- Idaho passed legislation to allow for dry needling by PT's with proper training last Summer. It was thought that this law would go into effect on March 1st of this year, but the bill needs to be signed by the Governor. This will likely not happen until the end of March after the current session is over.

## ILLINOIS – Representative: Anne Bierman

- Current legislative issues in the IPTA:
  - Physical Therapy Licensure Compact – no update
  - Fair PT Co-Pays no update
- Events/Activities:
  - ReVitalize 2019 will be held April 6, 2019 at the Q Center in St Charles. Proposals were due 9/28/18.

## INDIANA- Representative: Shane Sommers

- Nothing to report.

## IOWA – Representative: Shane McClinton

- The Iowa Physical Therapy Association (IPTA) held its annual Legislative Day on February 13, 2019. Physical therapists and physical therapist assistants from around the state met at the Capital to meet with legislators about legislation pertinent to physical therapy.
- With the passage of the licensure compact bill last year, there are few things on the radar for Iowa physical therapists. An 'Administrative Simplification' Bill will likely be introduced this coming session. This bill could help simplify the administrative burden on health providers when dealing with insurance providers and/or at least initiate discussions on bringing both healthcare and insurance providers to the table with legislative support. The IPTA will watch this bill's progress and be prepared to support it if the language and process is favorable for the IPTA and its members.

## KANSAS – Representative: Garrett Holle

- No report submitted.

## KENTUCKY – Representative: Chris Sharrock

- Nothing to report.

## LOUISIANA - Representative: Christian Coulon

- Nothing to report.

## MAINE- Representative: Hollan Oliver

- Nothing to report.

## MARYLAND – Representative: Michael Zarro

- 2019 Lobby Day:
  - Held in Annapolis, MD Feb 13, 2019.
  - Lobbying to oppose MD Board of Acupuncture's stance to prohibit physical therapists from performing dry needling.
- APTA of MD Mini CSM and Spring Member Meeting.
  - March 30, 2019 - Silver Spring, MD

## MASSACHUSETTS- Representative: Malia Koppin

- APTAMA Board of Directors approves guidelines for practice of dry needling in MA in December 2018.
- Events:
  - 1/15/19: Myalgic Encephalomyelitis/Chronic Fatigue Syndrome.
  - 1/16/19: Walkable Communities.
  - 1/24/19: CSM Social.
  - 1/31/19: PTA and Private Practice SIG: IATSM.
  - 2/8/19: Hockey Night- North Metro District.
  - 2/13/19: PT on Tap: Early Professional SIG.
  - 3/6/19: Manual Therapy SIG: Management of COPD.
  - 4/12/19 – 4/13/19: Northeast Sports Symposium with AASPT, Hartford, CT: Concussion Management and Tactical Athlete.

## MICHIGAN--Representative: Corey Snyder

- Nothing to report.

## MINNESOTA – Representative: Jaynie Bjornaraa

- There is a bill in place to allow PT's to request disability permits for driving for patients - in addition to MDs. At this point, PTs have nothing to do with it now.

## MISSISSIPPI – Representative: Stephen Dill

- Nothing to report.

## MISSOURI- Representative: Chuck Rainey

- MPTA 2019 Spring Conference:
  - When: APRIL 12-14, 2019.
  - Where: Sheraton Westport Chalet, 191 W Port Plaza, St. Louis, MO 63146.
  - Contact: Carol Kemna, [ckemna@bardgett.net](mailto:ckemna@bardgett.net), 573-556-6730. See link for further information: <https://www.mopt.org/events/EventDetails.aspx?id=965276&group=>

## MONTANA – Representative: VACANT

- No report submitted.

## NEBRASKA – Representative: Dan McCutchen

- The Spring 2019 NPTA conference will be held April 12-13 at UNMC Truhlsen Events Center in Omaha, Nebraska. Friday evening the NPTA will host a celebratory kickoff reception and Awards Ceremony with keynote speaker, Dr. Lynn Steffes. The event is free and open to members, non-members, sponsors and students. Daniel Young, PT, DPT, PhD: The Sixth Vital Sign, Functional Status of Hospital Inpatients (7.0 contact hours) Jeff Walter, PT, DPT, NCS: Vestibular Rehabilitation Therapy: Practical Management of the Patient with Dizziness (7.0 contact hours) Lynn Steffes, PT, DPT, CHC: Business Management for the Physical Therapist (7.0 contact hours) Michael Reiman, PT, DPT, OCS, SCS, ATC, FAAOMPT, CSCS: Post-Arthroscopic and Non-Surgical Rehabilitation of the Hip (7.0 contact hours).

## NEVADA- Representative: Steven Liaos

- Nothing to report.

## NEW HAMPSHIRE – Representative: Greg Alnwick

- Nothing to report.

## NEW JERSEY – Representative: Edison Au

- Feb. 19, 2019: The APTANJ Council of Directors approved the formation a Sports Physical Therapy in NJ Committee. The goal of the committee would be to analyze sports trends at all levels in New Jersey, host continuing education courses here in the state and foster discussion about PTs role in various settings. Will also be looking to develop & promote Sports PT in the state. The committee is to be chaired by Edison Au (NJ State Rep for AASPT)
- Sports PT coverage will be provided at the 2019 NJ Judo Open Championships (Mar. 3 @ Frank J. Gargiulo Campus in Secaucus, NJ).
- Upcoming events:
  - March 4, 2019: Atlantic Sports Health Sports Medicine Lecture Series: *Sports Medicine & the Law*.
  - April 5-6, 2019: APTANJ Spring Conference –featured presentation, Concussion: Effective Management <https://aptanj.site-ym.com/events/EventDetails.aspx?id=1188693&group=>
  - June 13, 2019: Atlantic Sports Health & NJSIAA Summer Sports Medicine Seminar
- Recent Legislative activity: Dec. 28, 2018 - Bill No. S431/S5256/A392.
  - Bill first introduced Feb. 15, 2018.
  - Permits certain physical therapists to perform Dry Needling, if the physical therapist has successfully completed a dry needling continuing education and competency program approved by the New Jersey State Board of Physical Therapy Examiners.
  - Has two or more years of clinical experience treating patients in NJ.

- Has current CPR certification
- “Dry needling” does not mean the stimulation of auricular or distal points or the practice of acupuncture.
- The bill establishes requirements for board-approved dry needling continuing education and competency programs, which must include at least 54 hours of instruction.
- The bill also requires a physical therapist to obtain written informed consent from each patient prior to the provision of dry needling, containing a minimum of 6 points, including a clearly and conspicuously written statement that the patient is not receiving acupuncture.
- The Senate Commerce Committee reported favorably on this Bill, and Referred to Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee on 2018-02-15.
- On Dec. 28, the office of legislative services (OLS) completed a fiscal estimate, and found that the bill will cause indeterminate annual expenditure increases to the State Board of Physical Therapy Examiners in the Department of Law and Public Safety, the Division of Criminal Justice in the Department of Law and Public Safety, and the Administrative Office of the Courts.
- Oct. 18, 2018 - Bill No. 1837.
  - The Assembly Education Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 1837. This bill provides that a student enrolled in a school district who sustains a concussion must receive an evaluation by a licensed health care professional and written clearance from the licensed health care professional to return to school.
- Oct. 15, 2018 - Bill No. A1598 (formerly S2511/ A4368).
  - Enters New Jersey in Physical Therapy Licensure Compact.
  - Will impact physical therapists working with athletes across state lines; to ensure that there is official reciprocity/recognition of license to practice when traveling with teams/athletes while competing in states for which the PT is not licensed.
  - 2018-01-09 - Introduced, Referred to Assembly Regulated Professions Committee
  - Withdrawn from Consideration on 2018-10-15.
- Jan. 9, 2018 - Bill No. A1153.
  - Requires criminal history record background checks on certain volunteer sports personnel.
  - While PT licensing in NJ already requires background checks and fingerprinting, this may be a redundant inconvenience for PTs working/volunteering for sports teams.
  - Introduced, Referred to Assembly Law and Public Safety Committee
- Jan. 9, 2018 - Bill No. A1755.
  - Requires public and nonpublic schools, local recreation departments, and youth serving organizations to have licensed athletic trainer present at youth athletic events that involve certain contact sports.
  - To expand public awareness of sports PT, we should try to amend this bill to include sports PTs.
  - Introduced, Referred to Assembly Education Committee.

#### NEW MEXICO--Representative: VACANT

- No report submitted.

#### NEW YORK – Representative: Terrance Sgroi

- Nothing to report.

#### NORTH CAROLINA –Ann Marie Husk

- 2019 NCPTA Advocacy Day is Wednesday April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2019. 8:30 am -1 pm.
  - Focus on Spinal Manipulation
  - Registration ends March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2019
  - Register on the North Carolina Physical Therapy Association website
  - Alex Miller, our lobbyist will set up the appointments.
  - You will be notified of your appointment time either before or on Advocacy Day
  - Activities will start at the North Carolina Museum of History, at 5 East Edenton Street, which is located across from the Legislative Building.
  - Direct questions to NCPTA Executive Director Pauline Flesch at [pflesch@ncpta.org](mailto:pflesch@ncpta.org)

- NCPTA has pursued a federal antitrust lawsuit against the North Carolina Acupuncture Licensing Board to protect their patients' access to dry needling. They recently found out that this long-running fight is over, and that the NCPTA has won the right for NC PTs to provide dry needling to their patients.

#### NORTH DAKOTA – Representative: Kevin Axtman

- North Dakota has several bills that are being watched in the legislature this year. One relating to Physical Therapy is SB 2125 which recently passed the Senate. This bill updates the Physical Therapy Practice Act and has not really brought up any opposition so far. Another bill, SB 2059, exempts out of state sports physicians to work with teams without a ND license. This bill has also passed the Senate.

#### OHIO – Representative: Jeffrey Swiers

- Sub House Bill 131 was passed through the senate and currently in progress to becoming current Ohio Law.
- Sub House Bill 131 includes the following changes to the Ohio Practice Act: Defining a Physical Therapy Diagnosis.
- Ohio will be meeting via conference call and will continue with Advocacy Efforts in April 2019.

#### OKLAHOMA– Representative: Josh Williams

- Senate Bill 381 was introduced in the Oklahoma legislature this legislative session. This bill would amend Oklahoma Statute 2011 Section 1-116.3 to allow school districts to stock asthma inhalers and Epinephrine auto-injectors for specific students. This law would update requirements for who is allowed to administer the medications as well as the appropriate reporting following administration. The bill has passed the Oklahoma Senate Floor and is now awaiting to be heard in the House. [http://webserver1.lsb.state.ok.us/cf\\_pdf/2019-20%20ENGR/SB/SB381%20ENGR.PDF](http://webserver1.lsb.state.ok.us/cf_pdf/2019-20%20ENGR/SB/SB381%20ENGR.PDF)
- House Bill 2341 (SB 806) was introduced in the Oklahoma legislature. This bill would update the state's physical therapy practice act to allow for referrals by Advanced Practice Registered Nurses. This bill has passed the House Public Health Committee and is headed to the House Floor. The sister bill in the Senate (SB 806) has been referred to the Health and Human Services Committee. [http://webserver1.lsb.state.ok.us/cf\\_pdf/2019-20%20FLR/HFLR/HB2341%20HFLR.PDF](http://webserver1.lsb.state.ok.us/cf_pdf/2019-20%20FLR/HFLR/HB2341%20HFLR.PDF)
- The Oklahoma Physical Therapy Association ([www.okpt.org](http://www.okpt.org)) will hold its annual meeting on April 5-6, 2019 in Tulsa, OK. Courses include:
  - Soft Tissue Diagnosis and Mobilization for Soft Tissue Injuries by Steve Forbush, PT, PhD, OCS.
  - Best Practices in Oncology Rehabilitation Models of Care by Lisa VanHoose, PhD, MPH, PT.
  - SI Joint Evaluation and Treatment by Eric Smith, PT.
  - Sports Medicine in Dance by Megan Meir, MD.
  - Ethics by Lynn Jeffries, PT, PhD.
  - Plantar Fasciitis: Fact or Fiction by Steve Forbush, PT, PhD, OCS.
  - Contemporary Oncology Rehabilitation Education & Practice by Lisa VanHoose, PhD, MPH, PT.
  - Dementia Specialty in PT by LeRae Scroggins, PT.

#### OREGON – Representative: Eric Marchek

- Senate Bill 139 was introduced in Oregon this quarter. A summary of the bill is outlined below:
- The purpose of the bill is to develop a legislative pathway to easing the burden that utilization management services place on patients. Specifically, the bill would:
  - Require payers to make information about utilization management program accessible and understandable for patients and providers.
  - Set timelines for review and determination on completed requests as well as parameters for peer review of denials.
  - Require reporting on the number of reviews completed, approved, appealed and denied to the Department of Consumer and Business Services.
  - Encourage electronic submission to decrease duplicate documentation.
  - Ensure that evidence supporting the utilization management determination is current and transparent.

**PENNSYLVANIA – Representative: Ivan Mulligan**

- No report submitted.

**RHODE ISLAND – Representative: VACANT**

- No Report submitted.

**SOUTH CAROLINA – Representative: Chris Hopkins**

- Nothing to report.

**SOUTH DAKOTA- Representative: Matt Dewald**

- Nothing to report.

**TENNESSEE – Representative: Bryan Clary**

- The TPTA is currently working with the Tennessee Secondary Schools Athletic Association (TSSAA) on getting stats for Physical Therapists active in sideline management.
- TPTA hopes to establish a Physical Therapist on the TSSAA Sports Committee to contribute to discussion on appropriate implementation of concussion management.
- TPTA will be meeting with BCBS of Tennessee to discuss Physical Therapists role in the growing opioid crisis.
- TPTA hopes BCBS will eventually waive the co-pay for patients who are actively participating in formal Physical Therapy.
- TPTA also will discuss timely credentialing of current and new graduate Physical Therapists.

**TEXAS – Representative: Toko Nguyen**

- Texas representatives will be going back to Capitol Hill Texas on February 19th to battle for Patient Direct Access.

**UTAH- Representative: Brian Boyle**

- Nothing to report.

**VERMONT - Representative: VACANT**

- No report submitted.

**VIRGINIA - Representative: Andrew Contreras**

- Nothing to report.

**WASHINGTON – Representative: VACANT**

- No report submitted.

**WEST VIRGINIA - Representative: VACANT**

- No report submitted.

**WISCONSIN – Representative: Steven McCoy**

- Nothing to report.

**WYOMING - Representative: Tom Davis**

- Wyoming did get a new direct access bill passed this month. HB6 passed Senate Labor committee unanimously. Starting 7/1/19, we will have unlimited access to see our self-pay/self-insured patients without a script.
- Here is the current reading: "A physical therapist may initiate physical therapy treatment with or without a prescription from a licensed physician or other health care provider, except that a physical therapist shall refer a patient or client to another health care provider to diagnose or care for the patient or client if the physical

therapist reasonably believes that symptoms or conditions may be present that require health care services beyond the scope of physical therapy practice, or physical therapy is contraindicated."