

STATE REPRESENTATIVE NETWORK, AASPT
2019 – 2nd 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 or (603) 466-5972.

Arkansas	Colorado	Maine	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) Matthew Ward (Virginia), Your time is greatly appreciated.

ALABAMA – Representative: Andrea Johnson

- Legislation was introduced on March 3rd that will remove the referral language from the practice act.
 - HB 50 Sponsored by Representative Ron Johnson.
 - SB 25 Sponsored by Senator Jim McClendon.
- On April 10th a rally was held at the state capitol in Montgomery to bring awareness to the two bills. Over 100 PT, PTA, and Students PT and PTA attended the rally.
- On 16th the Senate Health Committee voted to defeat SB 25. Under the recommendation of ALATPA lobbyist, the ALAPTA leadership decided not to pursue a hearing or vote in the House Health Committee for HB50.
- ALAPTA suspended any further legislative efforts for the 2019 legislative cycle. Plans will be made to continue the efforts in 2020.

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

- HB19-1208, Physical Therapists Youth Athletes Head Trauma, also known as the "Return To Play" bill, was signed into law by Colorado Gov. Jared Polis.
- Current law states that if a youth athlete is removed from play because a coach suspects the youth athlete has sustained a concussion in a game, competition, or practice, the coach or other designated personnel shall not permit the youth athlete to return to play or participate in any supervised team activities involving physical exertion until the youth athlete is evaluated by a health care provider and receives written clearance to return to play from the health care provider.

- The bill adds licensed physical therapists with training in pediatric neurology or concussion evaluation and management to the definition of "health care provider" for this purpose.

CONNECTICUT--Representative: Peg Grey

- Nothing to report.

DELAWARE – Representative: Angela Smith

- Delaware has recently introduced legislation (Senate Bill 83) to enter into the PT Licensure Compact.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA- Representative: McKenzie Bane

- Nothing to report.

FLORIDA – Representative: Patrick Pabian

- Nothing to report.

GEORGIA – Representative: Ross Brakeville

- Due to the issue of high co-pays restricting patient access to PT in the state of Georgia, the Physical Therapy Association of Georgia has, again, (initially proposed 2017) proposed a bill “Fair Co-Pays for Physical Therapy”.
- Physical therapy services typically falls into the category of “specialist” under most insurance plans – a classification that is accompanied by higher copayments. Averaging \$51.25, a patient prescribed 8 visits in a month will pay an average of \$410.00.
- SB 28 seeks to prohibit a health insurer from charging co-payments for PT that is greater than that of a primary care physician. Benefits include: save money by reducing out-of-pocket medical expenses, allow greater compliance with the plan of care leading to improved outcomes, less downstream health care costs for insurers and provide a safe alternative for use of prescribed opioids. Unfortunately, physician resistance in the Senate and health plans have kept this bill from exiting a committee for a floor vote.
- On May 23, 2019 Governor Brian Kemp signed HB39, the Interstate Physical Therapy Licensure Compact, into law. HB39 will allow the State of Georgia to enter into the “Physical Therapy Licensure Compact,” authorizing the State Board of Physical Therapy to administer the compact and share information through the Exam, Licensure and Disciplinary Database (ELDD). The compact will allow eligible licensed physical therapists to practice and work in a Compact member state without having to go through the lengthy process for licensure in the remote state.
- HB 324, Georgia’s Hope Act”, amends Title 16 to create the Office of Low THC Oil Control within the Department of Public Health which will have the authority to issue licenses for the production, growth, and dispensing of low THC oil.

HAWAI’I – Representative: Ryan Moore

- Nothing to report.

IDAHO – Representative: Kyle Sela

- Nothing to report.

ILLINOIS – Representative: Anne Bierman

- Current legislative issues in the IPTA:
 - SB 653 – IPTA is working to address payment disparities for time-based CPT codes in this bill. To address policy changes that have resulted in mass denials of claims flagged by the -59 modifier, the IPTA has worked with stakeholders to introduce legislation that would prohibit insurers from applying a time measurement standard that results in fewer units than allowed by the

AMA's CPT code book. The only exception is when required under federal programs such as Medicare.

- Legislation is pending to increase early intervention reimbursement by 3%.
- Physical Therapy Licensure Compact – no update.
- Fair PT Co-Pays no update.
- Events/Activities:
 - ReVitalize 2019 was held April 6, 2019 at the Q Center in St Charles.
- Awards announced at Revitalize 2019 in April:
 - Babette Sanders Leadership and Service Award – Alice Salzman, PT, EdD.
 - Physical Therapist of the Year Award – Cori Zook-Arquines.
 - Outstanding Physical Therapist Student Award – Roshan Devarakonda, SPT and Morgan Lukert, SPT.
 - Outstanding Physical Therapist Assistant Award – Emma Battaglia, SPTA.
 - Outstanding Academic Educator Award – Andrew Strubhar, PT, PhD.

INDIANA- Representative: Shane Sommers

- Nothing to report.

IOWA – Representative: Shane McClinton

- IPTA has been actively advocating for removal of proposed MPPR increase with Medicaid. This has included multiple meetings in Des Moines with decision makers. IPTA will continue to ask Medicaid to remove this increase. If they do not it will become a legislative initiative for 2020.

KANSAS – Representative: Garrett Holle

- Nothing to report.

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 Legislative Session News:
 - The recently concluded 2019 session was a successful one for APTA of Maryland. During the Session 2,496 bills and joint resolutions were introduced. We reviewed, as did several of our members, each of the bills introduced. Our primary agenda item was to enact the Interstate Physical Therapy Licensure Compact. We had the bills introduced in both the House and Senate.
 - Another key issue that arose was the effort to modify the definition of the practice of acupuncture.
 - We also dealt with several proposals relating to the reporting of child abuse, and numerous bills that addressed issues of student health.
- APTA of Maryland Sponsored Events:
 - On Sunday, July 14th APTAMD is heading to Broadway!
 - Pick your show: Beautiful | Come From Away.
 - Join us for a Special Continuing Education course on the way to NYC! Emotional Resiliency and Mindfulness. Speaker: April Vesely, PT. Earn CEUs | Enjoy a Broadway Show | and Play in NYC

- APTA of Maryland & DCPTA Student Conclave October 26, 2019 - Baltimore, MD
- APTA of Maryland & DCPTA Annual Conference November 9, 2019 - Arnold, MD
- APTA Sponsored Events
 - Vestibular Rehabilitation: An Advanced Course and Update May 3-5 2019 - Pittsburgh, PA.
 - Insider Intel: Live Webinar Series on Payment and Regulatory Issues May 22, 2019 (2:00 pm-2:45 pm) - FREE to members.
 - NEXT Conference & Exposition June 12-15, 2019 – Chicago, IL.
 - APTA House of Delegates June 9-11, 2019 – Chicago, IL.
- Paid Advertisement
 - Fresh Cadaver Dissection Workshop: Knee, Ankle & Subtalar Joints - Saturday June 22, 2019 (8:00 am - 5:00 pm).
 - Registration (Online) or call 410-651-6301.
 - Location: Department of Physical Therapy, Hazel Hall, 2nd Floor, University of Maryland Eastern Shore, Princess Anne, MD.
 - Course Type: Live; Lecture & Dissection.
 - Price: \$300 (includes all dissection instruments, supplies & lunch); \$75 discount for current UMES clinical instructors.
 - CEUs: 0.7.
 - Presenter: Cindy Gill, PT, DScPT, MEd, Associate Professor, Department of Physical Therapy, University of Maryland Eastern Shore.
 - This lecture and lab intensive workshop is designed to provide the participant with the unique opportunity to gain hands-on experience with dissection of fresh (un-embalmed) partial cadaver specimens. The workshop will consist of both lecture and dissection with the focus on neuromusculoskeletal and vascular structures of the thigh, leg, knee, ankle, & subtalar joints.
 - Course highlights: ~60% of the course will be hands-on dissection; dissection preceded by lecture & guided by dissection instructions; experienced instructors & assistants to support participant's dissection; and positive & personal atmosphere that is well suited for mastery of information.

MASSACHUSETTS- Representative: Malia Koppin

- No report submitted.

MICHIGAN--Representative: Corey Snyder

- Nothing to report.

MINNESOTA – Representative: Jaynie Bjornaraa

- PTs are now allowed to request disability parking privileges on behalf of their patients.

MISSISSIPPI – Representative: Stephen Dill

- No report submitted.

MISSOURI- Representative: Chuck Rainey

- MPTA 2020 Lobby Day.
 - When: Wednesday, February 26, 2020.
 - Where: Missouri State Capital and Millbottom Event Center, Jefferson City, MO.
 - Time: 7:00 AM.
 - Contact: Lindsay Roepe, Lindsay@bardgett.net, (573)556-6730. See link for further information: <https://www.mopt.org/events/EventDetails.aspx?id=1214427&group=>

MONTANA – Representative: VACANT

- No report submitted.

NEBRASKA – Representative: Dan McCutchen

- On Monday, April 15th the state of Nebraska began issuing PT Compact privileges.

NEVADA- Representative: Steven Liaos

- No report submitted.

NEW HAMPSHIRE – Representative: Greg Alnwick

- The NHAPTA held their first multi-site PT Night Out/Membership Meeting in Gorham, Manchester, Nashua and Portsmouth and are in the planning stages of interactive professional development offerings as well as community/ membership events to further our outreach and engagement.
- NHAPTA Vice President Dee Daley has been slated as a candidate for the National APTA Board of Directors.
- The NH Chapter Chief Delegate, President, and Alternate Delegate attended the Northeast Caucus meeting on March 23rd in Burlington, VT. The focus of the meeting was upcoming HOD Motion discussions particularly the many motions that are being brought forward by the Chapters of our caucus. This year the NH Chapter is bringing forth the following motion:
 - RC 62-19: Naloxone Availability Where Physical Therapist Services are Provided.
- The NH Delegation believes this motion is both timely due to the ongoing opioid epidemic afflicting so many areas of our country not the least of which is the prevalence in our state of NH.
- Additionally, NHAPTA along with The Doorway at Granite Pathways is sponsoring Naloxone Training for Physical Therapy Providers on May 29th from 6:30-8:00 pm. The training is free and each participant will receive a Naloxone kit. Sign-up for this training is via: <https://www.nhapta.org/ChapterEvents/eventView.asp?EventID=81>
- NHAPTA's Night at the Fisher Cats: We again plan to be a sponsor for a night at the Fisher Cats scheduled for August 16th at an evening game.
- Dorothy Baethke-Eleanor J. Carlin Award for Excellence in Academic Training: Congratulations! to our NHAPTA member Kristin Greenwood, PT, DPT, EdD, MS Board Certified Geriatric Clinical Specialist for her selection of this prestigious APTA honor. This award recognizes educators that demonstrate “exceptional teaching effectiveness in the academic setting” and act as a “role model for academic teaching for students, faculty and clinicians”. Kristin is an Associate Professor and Department Chair of the Department of Physical Therapy, Movement and Rehabilitation Sciences at Northeastern University. She will be formerly honored at the NEXT conference in Chicago this June.
- We will be having our first Annual Conference: Scheduled for Saturday, November 2, 2019 with the theme of Applied Pain Science. This conference will bring together providers from various segments and aspects of healthcare who routinely deal with the challenges of effective pain management as well as review the latest research in the area of applied pain science. More details to come!

NEW JERSEY – Representative: Edison Au

- APTANJ has just created the NJ Sports PT Committee.

NEW MEXICO--Representative: VACANT

- No report submitted.

NEW YORK – Representative: Terrance Sgroi

- Nothing to report.

NORTH CAROLINA –Ann Marie Husk

- Dry Needling:
 - NC state's acupuncture licensing board relented on its attempt to restrict the intervention, signing off on a settlement agreement in federal district court that acknowledges dry needling as a part of the PT scope of practice in the state.
 - The agreement acts as an end to a lawsuit from a combination of PTs and patients against the North Carolina Acupuncture Licensing Board (NCALB) that originated back in 2015.
- Spinal Manipulation:
 - SB 574 (HB548), the bill NCPTA introduced to eliminate the need for a physician referral to perform spinal manipulation continues to work its way through the legislative process.
 - The bill has passed through the House Health Committee, the House Rules Committee, and the full House.
 - It then moved to the Senate and passed the Senate Healthcare Committee, the Senate Rules Committee and the full Senate!
 - The House vote was 103-9 and the Senate vote was 44-1.
 - The bill will go through one more healthcare committee vote, rules committee vote and full floor vote to complete the process.
 - The last stop is the Governor's signature.
 - This is the most progress the bill has made in the past 6 years

NORTH DAKOTA – Representative: Kevin Axtman

- North Dakota's legislative session is complete with a couple of PT bills being passed.
- Physical Therapy SB-2125 updates the Physical Therapy Practice Act, including clarifying supervision definitions and updating Board makeup.
- SB-2059 exempts out of state sports physicians to work with teams without a ND license.
- The current ND PT Practice Act already exempts PT's traveling with sports teams.

OHIO – Representative: Jeffrey Swiers

- Nothing to report.

OKLAHOMA– Representative: Josh Williams

- Senate Bill 381 passed the Oklahoma legislature and was signed into law by Governor Kevin Stitt on April 23, 2019. This bill amends Oklahoma Statute 2011 Section 1-116.3 to allow students to be in possession of and/or self-administer a prescribed asthma inhaler or Epinephrine auto-injector. This law also allows school districts to stock asthma inhalers and Epinephrine auto-injectors for student use. The law becomes effective on July 1, 2019. http://webserver1.lsb.state.ok.us/cf_pdf/2019-20%20ENR/SB/SB381%20ENR.PDF
- SB 806 passed the Oklahoma legislature and was signed into law by Governor Kevin Stitt on April 29. This bill updates the state's physical therapy practice act to allow for referrals by Advanced Practice Registered Nurses. The new law will become effective on November 1, 2019. http://webserver1.lsb.state.ok.us/cf_pdf/2019-20%20ENR/SB/SB806%20ENR.PDF
- HB 2571 also passed the Oklahoma legislature and was signed into law. This law cleans up some language in the Oklahoma law related to the licensure compact, particularly as it relates to background checks and criminal history. This law became effective immediately. http://webserver1.lsb.state.ok.us/cf_pdf/2019-20%20ENR/hB/HB2571%20ENR.PDF

OREGON – Representative: Eric Marchek

- Senate Bill 742 was introduced in Oregon this past quarter that changes the scope of practice and licensure for Athletic Trainers in Oregon. The Oregon Physical Therapy Association went on record opposing elements of the bill. While the language concerning licensure for Athletic Trainers was supported, there was opposition to expanding the scope of practice for Athletic Trainer outside of 'athletes.' A summary of the bill is outlined

below. A link to the current bill language can be found at <https://olis.leg.state.or.us/liz/2019R1/Downloads/MeasureDocument/SB742>.

- The proposed bill would:
 - Create a path to licensure for Athletic Trainers in Oregon.
 - Expand Athletic Trainer scope of practice to become diagnosticians and care for all individuals.
 - The bill passed the Senate and is headed to the House of Representatives, where it is expected to pass.

PENNSYLVANIA – Representative: Ivan Mulligan

- Nothing to report.

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

- Nothing to report.

TEXAS – Representative: Toko Nguyen

- Texas is one step closer to obtaining direct access! Though, most likely not taking place until September 1st, it is quite possible that Texas will see Direct Access with the following provisions. We will have to wait until then to know for sure.
 - 15 days Direct Access to Physical Therapist who are Residency and/or Fellowship trained.
 - 10 days Direct Access to Physical Therapist who are not Residency and/or Fellowship trained.

UTAH- Representative: Brian Boyle

- Nothing to report.

VERMONT - Representative: VACANT

- No report submitted.

VIRGINIA - Representative: Matthew Ward

- 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

- Nothing to report.