

STATE REPRESENTATIVE NETWORK, SPTS  
2016 – 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.

Alabama	Arkansas	Delaware	Maine
Mississippi	New Mexico	South Dakota	Vermont
West Virginia	Wyoming		

**ALABAMA – Representative: VACANT**

- No report submitted.

**ALASKA – Representative: Rebecca Byerley**

- Nothing to report.

**ARIZONA – Representative: John Heick**

- Arizona legislation HB 2504 Physical Therapy COMPACT passed the Arizona House. The purpose of this Compact is to facilitate the interstate practice of physical therapy with the goal of improving public access to physical therapy services. The practice of physical therapy occurs in the state where the patient/client is located at the time of the patient/client encounter. This compact preserves the regulatory authority of states to protect the public health and safety through the current system of state licensure. This Compact is designed to achieve the following objectives:
  - o Increase public access to physical therapy services by providing for the mutual recognition of other member state licenses.
  - o Enhance the states' ability to protect the public health and safety.
  - o Encourage the cooperation of member states in regulating multi-state physical therapy practice.
  - o Support spouses of relocating military members.
  - o Enhance the exchange of licensure, investigative and disciplinary information between member states.
  - o Allow a remote state to hold a provider of services with a Compact privilege in that state accountable to that state's practice standards.

**ARKANSAS – Representative: VACANT**

- No report submitted.

**CALIFORNIA--Representative: Aimee Diaz**

- No report submitted.

## COLORADO – Representative: Brian Briggs

- Colorado's HB 16-1326 "Consumer Access to Physical Rehabilitation Services." The bill changes requirements for the coverage of health care benefits for physical rehabilitation services to allow for increased consumer access to services.
- Athletic Trainer Practice Act: Purposed bill to regulate athletic trainers in the state of Colorado. This bill requires athletic trainers to obtain a registration from the director in order to practice athletic training in Colorado. This act takes effect July 1, 2016.
- 2016 Rocky Mountain Spring Conference & Physical Therapy Expo. April 15, 16 & 17, 2016 | Keystone Conference Center & Resort. This annual event offers affordable continuing education, practice information, product demonstrations and networking for APTA members and other Physical Therapy professionals in Colorado and the Rocky Mountain region.

## CONNECTICUT--Representative: Peg Grey

- Connecticut House Bill 5277, which would legalize mixed martial arts (MMA) fighting in the Nutmeg State, passed through the Connecticut General Assembly's House of Representatives and will now be considered by the Senate. Regarding the bill, House speaker J. Brendan Sharkey said: "We're one of only two states in the country that does not regulate the sport, so I think we're very much out of step where the rest of the country is on this."

## DELAWARE – Representative: VACANT

- No report submitted.

## DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA- Representative: Tim Vidale

- Nothing to report.

## FLORIDA – Representative: Patrick Pabian

- The Florida Legislature passed SB 450 by a unanimous vote of 117-0. The legislation will be presented to Governor Scott for his approval. Once the Governor approves the legislation it will become law immediately.
- The legislation begins to modernize the Florida Physical Therapy Practice Act by:
  - o Removing barriers to care by improving patient direct access to physical therapist from the current 21-day limit to 30 days.
  - o Ensuring seasonal visitors with a referral or consult from a physician licensed in another state can continue care without interruption.
  - o Protecting the title of "DPT."

## GEORGIA – Representative: Ross Brakeville

- The great state of Georgia has the distinct honor of being home to Barney Poole, winner of the prestigious 2016 SPTS Ron Peyton Award.

## HAWAI'I – Representative: Ryan Moore

- HAPTA has finalized the new continuing education requirements and all licensed members in the state of Hawai'i have been notified by mail. All PT licenses shall obtain 30 units of continuing competence units (CCU) to renew by December 31, 2016. Each licensee shall register with the FSBT aPTitude Program at [www.fsbpt.org/aptitude](http://www.fsbpt.org/aptitude). All record-keeping of CCUs will be done through aPTitude. 24 units must be in subjects relating to professional practice of PT or patient / client management. 2 units must be in ethics, laws, and rules (jurisprudence), which can be satisfied by taking an exam online at [www.PTcourses.com](http://www.PTcourses.com) under the heading of "Ethics & Jurisprudence: A Practical Application - Hawaii (#130)". An additional 4 units in life support must be satisfied in a comparable to, or more advanced than, the American Heart Association's basic life support health care provider course.

## IDAHO – Representative: Kyle Sela

- Nothing to report.

## ILLINOIS – Representative: Anne Bierman

- Current legislative issues in the IPTA:
  - o Senate Bill 1425: Co-Pay Equity. This bill provides that the co-pay for physical therapy care be no greater than that of a primary care physician. Bill has been sent back to Assignments.
  - o Illinois Early Intervention Program is still up for severe cuts and has delayed reimbursement due to budget not passing. Please see the website for instructions to contact legislators.
- IPTA’s new mission statement is succinct but declarative: “The IPTA exists to improve the health, wellness, and quality of life for the people in Illinois through physical therapy.” IPTA has also adopted new value-based strategic goals:
  - o IPTA will increase society’s awareness and understanding of physical therapy.
  - o IPTA will transform health care in Illinois by leading collaboration between physical therapists and all physical therapy providers to reduce barriers to consumer access and promote health focused lifestyle interventions
  - o To maximize the value of IPTA membership (internal)
  - o Revitalize 2016 Conference is scheduled for March 18-19 in St Charles, IL.
- 2016 Awards will be issued at the Revitalize Conference in March

## INDIANA- Representative: Shane Sommers

- Nothing to report.

## IOWA – Representative: Shane McClinton

- The 86<sup>th</sup> General Assembly is underway in the Iowa Legislature and there are several key issues that the Iowa Physical Therapy Association (IPTA) will be working on. The first issue is related to assuring dry needling continues to be observed as within the PT scope of practice. While the IPTA won a battle against the petition brought to the Iowa PT/OT board by the Iowa Association of Oriental Medicine and Acupuncture (IAOMA), IAOMA is trying to change their scope of practice again through the Legislative process. Essentially, the IAOMA is attempting to include language that would indicate the use of any solid filiform needle as Acupuncture and therefore only able to be practiced by Acupuncturists. Last year, their bill died in committee due to concerns about the infringement of this definition on other scopes of practice. In addition, the IAOMA will be appealing the Iowa PT/OT Board’s decision that dry needling is within the PT’s scope of practice.
- In February, members of the IPTA stormed Capitol Hill to talk about current PT issues in the legislature to include the dry needling issues. The event was well-attended by PTs and DPT students from across the State.

## KANSAS – Representative: Daniel Lorenz

- There is a bill in the Senate from the acupuncturists that would exclude PT’s from dry needling. Last year, the Board of Healing Arts voted “no opinion” on dry needling which opened the door for us to do it. Many PT’s have got training in it and now it may be taken away. There was a vote on 2/2216 about this. The bill ended up not advancing, but it’s not over yet. Going to Ways and Means Committee.
- Also, a bill passed that will allow chiropractors to make RTP decisions on concussions.

## KENTUCKY – Representative: Chris Sharrock

- 2015 Kentucky NSCA Clinic: This clinic will be held at Eastern Kentucky University on Saturday April 2, 2016. Topics will range from sports performance, strength training, nutrition, rehabilitation, and much more. Please visit <https://www.nasca.com/events/state-and-regional-events/kentucky-state-clinic/> for more information and to register.

## LOUISIANA - Representative: Christian Coulon

- No report submitted.

## MAINE- Representative: VACANT

- No report submitted.

## MARYLAND – Representative: Michael Zarro

- APTA of MD currently opposing HB 232.
  - o Proposed to expand athletic training scope of practice to include treatment of “tactical athlete”
  - o Opposition primarily due to lack of definition of “tactical athlete” and likelihood of co-morbid conditions
- APTA of MD currently supporting HB 29
  - o Proposed to advocate for penalties against coaches knowingly returning athletes to competition with a concussion
- Spring Chapter meeting, March 19, 2016

## MASSACHUSETTS- Representative: Malia Koppin

- Shoulder SIG and Southern Metro Business Meeting: Thoracic Spine Influence on the shoulder 2/24/16.
- Delegate Meeting 2/29/16.
- Polypharmacy in the Geriatric patient 3/2/16
- Spring Representative Assembly/Delegate Caucus 5/15/16
- Full Representative Assembly 10/19/16
- Referenced: <https://222.aptaofma.org/>

## MICHIGAN--Representative: Mark Brostman

- No report submitted.

## MINNESOTA – Representative: Amanda Frake

- Nothing to report.

## MISSISSIPPI – Representative: VACANT

- No report submitted.

## MISSOURI- Representative: Chuck Rainey

- On-line Continuing Education Opportunity: MPTA’s partnership with MedBridge allows us to provide a discounted subscription for \$200, regularly \$425. Click here: <https://www.medbridgeeducation.com/mpta> to learn more and subscribe or enter the promo code MPTA at checkout.
- MPTA 2016 Spring Meeting: The MPTA 2016 Spring Meeting will take place April 15-17, 2016 at Rockhurst University in Kansas City, Missouri at the Convocation Center. There will be a Welcome Celebration/Exhibit Hall featuring research posters on Saturday Evening on April 16 from 5:00 p.m. until 7:30 p.m.
- MPTA 2016 Spring Meeting Call for Posters: Research project abstracts should be submitted to [ckemna@bardgett.net](mailto:ckemna@bardgett.net) via email. The deadline for abstract submissions is March 4, 2016. The Research Committee will then review the submissions and a reply e-mail will be returned to the submitter no later than March 14, 2016. Conference registration information is now available at <http://www.mopt.org/events/EventDetails.aspx?id=683947>

## MONTANA – Representative: John-Henry Anderson

- No report submitted.

## NEBRASKA – Representative: Claire Lakatos Rathjen

- No report submitted.

#### NEVADA- Representative: Steven Liaos

- Nothing to report.

#### NEW HAMPSHIRE – Representative: Greg Alnwick

- It's been a quiet year so far. Our representatives from the NHAPTA have attended a couple of hearings but it was clear that things were going our way so they did not testify.
- They did testify to the Athletic Trainers keeping their license but everyone agreed so there was no challenge.

#### NEW JERSEY – Representative: Edison Au

- Nothing to report.

#### NEW MEXICO--Representative: VACANT

- No report submitted.

#### NEW YORK – Representative: Terrance Sgroi

- No report submitted.

#### NORTH CAROLINA –Ann Marie Husk

- Acupuncturists are challenging our ability to dry needle.
  - o This would limit patient access to our services.
  - o Dry Needling is within the scope of practice in 26 jurisdictions, and physical therapists have long been performing needle insertion for EMG and NCV testing in 46 states and jurisdiction.
  - o In response, the North Carolina Physical Therapy Association is pursuing a landmark federal case to ensure that physical therapists can continue to do dry needling.
  - o You can help by contributing to the NCPTA's legal defense at:  
[www.gofundme.com/defenddryneedling](http://www.gofundme.com/defenddryneedling), [www.booster.com/defenddryneedling.com](http://www.booster.com/defenddryneedling.com) , and  
[www.ncpta.com](http://www.ncpta.com).

#### NORTH DAKOTA – Representative: Kevin Axtman

- The North Dakota Physical Therapy Rules and Regulations are now in effect and can be viewed at the North Dakota Board of Physical Therapy website at [ndbpt.org](http://ndbpt.org).

#### OHIO – Representative: Michael Bogden

- Nothing to report

#### OKLAHOMA– Representative: Josh Williams

- A Lawsuit has been filed by the Oklahoma Osteopathic Association and the Oklahoma State Medical Association against the State of Oklahoma questioning the constitutionality of HB 1020, Oklahoma's direct access law, which was signed into law in 2014. The lawsuit states that the law created "special legislation" for a "special class" of the population and that not all patients are allowed to benefit from the law. This is due to the restrictions that were placed on direct access in the current law (30-day limit, no workers comp patients).
- In response to the concerns regarding constitutionality made by the OOA and OSMA, a bill was filed this legislative session- SB 1429. This bill if passed would remove the 30-day time limit regarding patient access to physical therapy prior to requiring a physician's prescription. It would also allow physical therapists to treat workers' compensation patients without a prescription from a physician. Therefore, it would remove the restrictions that were placed on direct access in the original law that went into effect in 2014.
- SB 1429 was originally scheduled for a hearing in the State Senate Health and Human Services Committee on Monday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>. However, this hearing was delayed and did not occur.
- The Oklahoma Physical Therapy Association will host their annual meeting on April 1-2, 2016. Topics and speakers include:
  - o Evidence-based Examination and Treatment of the Upper Extremity- Kahn Nirschl, PT, DPT, OCS,

FAAOMPT

- o Policy Pandemonium, Medicare, and Therapy Benefits: Payment Policy and Compliance Update  
Helene Fearon, PT
- o Ethics- Lynn Jeffries, PT, DPT, PhD  
Orthopedic Physician: Surgery & Beyond- Orthopedic Surgeon group panel  
Student Course: The Upper Quarter Screen- Dale Boren, PT, MPT, OCS

OREGON – Representative: Christine Panagos

- Oregon has become the first state in the nation to join the Physical Therapy Licensure Compact (PTLC)
  - o This allows PT/PTA's to practice in multiple states under a single state license privilege
  - o Allowed to practice only in participating states
  - o To become fully operational, at least 10 other states must participate
  - o Only need to maintain licensure in their "home" state
  - o Allows greater access to care for patients
  - o Paves the way for the use of telehealth.

PENNSYLVANIA – Representative: Ivan Mulligan

- Nothing to report

RHODE ISLAND – Representative: Jeff Konin

- Nothing to report.

SOUTH CAROLINA – Representative: Rebecca Arndt

- No report submitted.

SOUTH DAKOTA- Representative: VACANT

- No report submitted.

TENNESSEE – Representative: Joe Black

- No report submitted.

TEXAS – Representative: Toko Nguyen

- Nothing to report.

UTAH- Representative: Brian Boyle

- Nothing new to report in Utah as far as PT goes. The big issue now is cannabis oil extract and its use for medical purposes in the state.

VERMONT - Representative: VACANT

- No report submitted.

VIRGINIA - Representative: Justin Podell

- Nothing to report.

WASHINGTON – Representative: Samantha Gubka

- No report submitted.

WEST VIRGINIA - Representative: VACANT

- No report submitted

WISCONSIN – Representative: Steven McCoy

- Wisconsin Assembly Bill 549
  - o Passed on February 18, 2016 on a unanimous voice vote.
  - o Allows Physical Therapists to resume ordering x-rays and for radiologic technologists to accept such orders to take x-ray films as directed.
  - o Wisconsin state senate is expected to consider the bill in mid-March.

WYOMING - Representative: VACANT

- No report submitted.