

STATE REPRESENTATIVE NETWORK, SPTS
2017 – 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.

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

I'd like to also welcome and say a special thank you to our newest members, Eric Marchek (Oregon), and Dan McCutchen (Nebraska). Your time is greatly appreciated.

ALABAMA – Representative: VACANT

- No report submitted.

ALASKA – Representative: Rebecca Byerley

- Nothing to report.

ARIZONA – Representative: John Heick

- Nothing to report.

ARKANSAS – Representative: VACANT

- No report submitted.

CALIFORNIA--Representative: Andrew Saldivar

- No report submitted.

COLORADO – Representative: Brian Briggs

- Governor signs PT Compact Bill - May 10, 2017
- Bill allows for the easy movement of physical therapists across state lines to practice. HB 1057 enters Colorado into an interstate compact for physical therapists which creates reciprocity with other states who have also entered into the compact so providers can work across state lines without having to have credentials in each state to practice. This bill passed with overwhelming support in both chambers.
- Acupuncturists Petition State Board of Physical Therapy to Repeal Dry Needling Rule #211.
- The Acupuncture Association of Colorado and the Colorado Safe Acupuncture Association filed a petition on with the State Board of Physical Therapy to repeal the PT Dry Needling Rule #211 and to promulgate an alternative rule to make clear that the insertion of acupuncture needles is outside the statutory PT scope of practice.
- Waiting on further movement regarding lawsuit.

CONNECTICUT--Representative: Peg Grey

- No report submitted.

DELAWARE – Representative: VACANT

- No report submitted.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA- Representative: Tim Vidale

- No report submitted.

FLORIDA – Representative: Patrick Pabian

- The decision to pursue legislative changes to allow Florida to enter into the National Physical Therapy Compact was delayed until 2018. After considerable discussion over legal and regulatory questions a collective decision was made that it would be best for Florida to pursue adoption of the Compact after a thorough examination of the Compact's new rules once they are adopted.

GEORGIA – Representative: Ross Brakeville

- Nothing to report.

HAWAII – Representative: Ryan Moore

- Nothing to report.

IDAHO – Representative: Kyle Sela

- No report submitted.

ILLINOIS – Representative: Anne Bierman

- Physical Therapy Licensure Compact – Illinois plans to be one of the first 10 states to adopt this compact (filed in the House by Representative Dan Burke in late January), which would allow PTs and PTAs to practice in any state that is also a part of the compact without having to obtain licenses in each of those states.
- Fair PT Co-Pays – Senator Martin Sandoval re-introduced this bill I, which has been an uphill battle in Illinois and other states. It is waiting for assignment to the Insurance Committee.
- Worker's Compensation Reform – Most recent legislation by Senate Minority Spokeswoman Radongno would cap the number of PT visits available to employees to 24 per claim, taking effect 1/1/2018. Our lobbyist and partner organizations are working to ensure that this 24 visit limit is not shared amongst professions (chiropractors and occupational therapists) and that this does not apply to post-surgical cases.
- Dry Needling – A LEGISLATIVE WIN! Senate Bill 898, our dry needling legislation, is on its way to the Governor. Thanks to all those who helped in reaching legislators. Together, we made a difference!
- As part of a national initiative to increase the scope of practice for athletic trainers, Illinois House Bill 3020 was introduced by Senator Michael McAuliffe. This bill would essentially provide ATs in Illinois with the ability to work either under a physician or autonomously and see any individual with a script or referral from a physician. They are proposing a complete rewrite of the athletic trainer scope of practice, allowing ATs to provide “therapeutic intervention and rehabilitation of injuries and medical conditions incurred by individuals and for which the athletic trainer has received appropriate education and training.” This was re-referred to the rules committee on 3/31/17.
- ReVitalize 2017 was April 21-22 at the Q Center in St Charles, IL. It was a great two-day event with a superb line-up of speakers. State Assembly met too and voted on some by-laws and other pertinent issues.
- 2017 Awards issued at Revitalize 2017:
 - Babette Sanders Leadership and Service Award: Julie Schwertfeger
 - Emerging Leader Award: Emily Pisani, PT, DPT
 - John Maselter Award: K. Michael Welch, MB, ChB, FRCP
 - Clinical Educator of the Year Award: Christopher Meachem, PT, DPT, GCS

- Outstanding Physical Therapist Student and Physical Therapist Assistant Student: Erin DeMarco, SPT

INDIANA- Representative: Shane Sommers

- Nothing to report.

IOWA – Representative: Shane McClinton

- Nothing to report.

KANSAS – Representative: Daniel Lorenz

- Nothing to report.

KENTUCKY – Representative: Chris Sharrock

- Nothing to report.

LOUISIANA - Representative: Christian Coulon

- Nothing to report.

MAINE- Representative: VACANT

- No report submitted.

MARYLAND – Representative: Michael Zarro

- APTA MD Annual Conference: November 11-12, 2017, Baltimore, MD. Registration opens June 1, 2017.
- APTAMD PT Night Out: The mission of PT Night Out is to bring the physical therapy community together to build relationships that transform society. Tuesdays in October from 6:30-8:30 pm.
 - October 11 - Eastern District at Brew River in Salisbury.
 - October 18 - Western District at La Paz in Frederick.
 - October 18 - Central District at Not Your Average Joe's in Bethesda.
 - October 25 - Southern District at Mother's Peninsula Grille in Arnold

MASSACHUSETTS- Representative: Malia Koppin

- No report submitted.

MICHIGAN--Representative: Mark Brostman

- No report submitted.

MINNESOTA – Representative: Amanda Frake

- Nothing to report.

MISSISSIPPI – Representative: Meredith Warf

- Nothing to report.

MISSOURI- Representative: Chuck Rainey

- Physical Therapy Licensure Compact Established After 10th State Signed: Washington became the tenth state to enact the Physical Therapy Licensure Compact after Governor Jay Inslee signed House Bill No. 1278 into law today, triggering the formation of the Physical Therapy Licensure Compact Commission. Now that ten states have enacted the Compact legislation, the Compact Commission, established within the Compact legislation, will meet later this year to write the rules and by-laws governing the compact as well as discuss the

management and administration. The member states appoint one current physical therapy board member or board administrator to serve on the Commission as Delegate. The Commission will administer the streamlined process for qualified physical therapists and physical therapist assistants to obtain a Compact Privilege, the authority to practice or work in multiple jurisdictions participating in the Compact, rather than a license. Once the Commission has established its rules and the data system required to administer the Compact are in place, the Compact will become operational. Licensees will begin to see the benefit of the Physical Therapy Licensure Compact in the first half of 2018. Washington joins Arizona, Kentucky, Missouri, Mississippi, Montana, North Dakota, Oregon, Tennessee, and Utah as states that have formally enacted the Compact. For more information about the Physical Therapy Licensure Compact, visit: www.ptcompact.org. To read the Physical Therapy Licensure Compact legislation, click [here](http://www.fsbpt.org/Portals/0/documents/free-resources/LicensureCompactLanguage_20170105.pdf). http://www.fsbpt.org/Portals/0/documents/free-resources/LicensureCompactLanguage_20170105.pdf.

- **ONLINE CE OFFERINGS:** MPTA has partnered with MedBridge to allow MPTA/APTA members to receive a discount on online continuing education! MedBridge provides clinicians and healthcare organizations a comprehensive education platform that includes clinical education, patient education, and home exercise programs to enhance clinical excellence, engage patients, and improve outcomes -- all included in one annual subscription. Subscribers get unlimited access to: Continuing Education, Patient Education and Home Exercise Programs. 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.
- **DISCOUNTED CE OPPORTUNITY FOR MPTA MEMBERS:** In support of the #ChoosePT campaign, MPTA has partnered with ISPI for the course "PAIN, PT, AND THE OPIOID EPIDEMIC". Registrants can earn 6 hours of CE for this very timely and informative online course. This course is delivered in an interactive and media-rich online environment, consisting of four 45-minute videos, four articles (one for each session) and full-color handouts complimenting the video presentations. An online post-test is used to reinforce course objectives and assess learning. Registration is now open. When you register, just put in **Missouri** as your state and your **membership number** to receive a discount. The regular price is \$149, but it is discounted to \$99 for MPTA members. Click here to register: [Pain, PT and the Opioid Epidemic:](http://www.ispinstitute.com/educational-offerings/course/pain-pt-opioid-epidemic/) <http://www.ispinstitute.com/educational-offerings/course/pain-pt-opioid-epidemic/>.

MONTANA – Representative: John-Henry Anderson

- No report submitted.

NEBRASKA – Representative: Dan McCutchen

- Nebraska Physical Therapy Association met to discuss physical therapy licensure COMPACT. The executive committee decided to meet with the association members during the fall meeting to gauge interest of the members.
- NPTA Spring Meeting was held Saturday, April 29, 2017 in Kearney, NE and included the following courses "Rancho Observational Gait Analysis: Maximizing Outcomes for Individuals with Neurologic Impairments" by Kelley Kubota, PT, MS, NCS, CBIS and Walt Weiss, PT, MPT, NCS, KEMG, "Understanding Young Adult Hip Pain" Erik P. Meira, PT, DPT, SCS, CSCS, and "Shoulder Rehab for the Physical Therapist Assistant" Justin Berry, PT, DPT, PhD.
- The NPTA Fall Conference will be a one day event at UNMC in Omaha, NE. Adriaan Louw, PT, PhD, CSMT will present "Introduction to Therapeutic Pain Neuroscience Education" and "Headaches: A Pain Science Approach" on Saturday, October 21, 2017. The course will consist of 7 contact hours and will be held at UNMC-Truhlsen Campus Events Center in Omaha.

NEVADA- Representative: Steven Liaos

- On April 7, 2017, the Nevada Assembly Committee on Commerce and Labor heard AB 456 to revise the definition of Chiropractic Adjustment to include "any application of a precisely controlled force applied by hand or mechanical device to a specific focal point of the anatomy". The intent of this language is to limit a physical therapist ability to perform mobilizations/manipulations in the state of Nevada. The bill did not make it out of the committee session, and a review of the Nevada Legislature website lists the status of the bill as "No

further action is allowed". More information will be provided as it becomes available.

- On April 25, 2017, the Senate Committee on Commerce, Labor and Energy passed SB437, and the bill is currently being heard in the Nevada Assembly Committee on Commerce and Labor.
- SB 437:
 - Changes the name of the State Board of Physical Therapy Examiners to the Nevada Physical Therapy Board.
 - Authorizes the Board to appoint nonvoting advisory members to the Board.
 - Authorizes the Board to issue citations for certain violations.
 - Changes the designation of physical therapists' assistants and physical therapists' technicians.
 - Revises the membership and duties of the Board.
 - Requires the Board to elect certain officers annually.
 - Amends provisions governing the supervision and authorized activities of physical therapist technicians.
 - Revises provisions governing the supervision of physical therapist assistants.
 - Revises terminology concerning the education of physical therapists and physical therapist assistants.
 - Combines similar provisions governing physical therapists and physical therapist assistants.
 - Authorizes the licensure by endorsement of physical therapist assistants.
 - Removes the requirement that the Board administer an examination to applicants for a license as a physical therapist.
 - Revises provisions prohibiting the use of certain names, titles and initials related to the practice of physical therapy; providing penalties; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

NEW HAMPSHIRE – Representative: Greg Alnwick

- The compact is expected to pass the house this week.
- NHAPTA is also supporting independent practitioners in contract negotiations with an insurance company.

NEW JERSEY – Representative: Edison Au

- Some NJ PTs have begun to receive 'cease & desist' letters from the state licensing board to discontinue utilizing dry needling techniques; a step backwards in the battle with acupuncturists for scope of practice.
- NJ SPTS State Rep; *Edison Au*, was selected as the team therapist for Athletics Canada at the 2017 FISU/World University Games in Taipei, Taiwan from Aug. 17-31.
- *Dec. 5, 2016 - Bill No. S2511/A4368*
 - Enters New Jersey in Physical Therapy Licensure Compact.
 - Introduced, Referred to Assembly Regulated Professions Committee.
 - 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.
- *Feb. 27, 2017 - Bill No. S1315/A1389/A1648 (1R) S874*
 - Reported from Senate Committee with Amendments, 2nd Reading, then Referred to Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee.
 - This bill seeks again to revise/update the "*Physical Therapist Licensing Act (1983, 2003)*."
 - Adds "balance disorder" to what a PT may assess for (a prelude to positioning PTs to be a part of the ever-growing concerns of identifying and treating of concussions).
 - While already approved by the NJ assembly last year, the bill was not passed on to the NJ Senate for final voting by the committee chair, an example of the ongoing battle for scope of practice between NJ acupuncturists and PTs. The recent amendment saw concession in taking "intramuscular techniques" out of inclusive treatments (which would have protected PTs as approved practitioners of techniques such as dry needling and intramuscular stimulation [IMS]).

NEW MEXICO--Representative: VACANT

- No report submitted.

NEW YORK – Representative: Terrance Sgroi

- No report submitted.

NORTH CAROLINA –Ann Marie Husk

- NCPTA Election Results:
 - President- Kyle Covington
 - Executive Director- Nancy Garland
 - Lobbyist- Alex Miller
- Update Regarding Dry Needling:
 - The NCPTA has sued the North Carolina Acupuncture Licensing Board in federal court. The NCPTA filed the lawsuit to protect patients' access to dry needling, and to ensure that our members can deliver this safe and effective treatment. The lawsuit seeks to hold the Acupuncture Board and its members accountable under the federal antitrust laws.
 - In a major development in the case, the Court ruled in January that we sufficiently alleged the Acupuncture Board and its members violated--and continue to violate--the federal antitrust laws by seeking to make dry needling unavailable to patients who benefit from it.
 - Weeks later, however, the Acupuncture Board filed a motion asking the Court to reconsider--and undo--our January victory.
 - The Court has rejected the Acupuncture Board's arguments once again. The Court denied the Acupuncture Board's motion for reconsideration, noting that the Acupuncture Board's "one-paragraph 'explanation' of why dry needling is not authorized by law in North Carolina is devoid of citation to any statute or case." In other words, the Acupuncture Board's arguments lacked support
- Spinal Manipulation Bill-HB 187, The Modernize Physical Therapy Act, eliminates the requirement for a physician referral or prescription for a physical therapist to provide spinal manipulation. North Carolina is one of only 3 states that has such a requirement
- Two companion bills were introduced in the House and Senate during the last General Assembly in March 2015. The House bill was unanimously voted out of the Health Committee in April 2015, and passed the House by a vote of 102-13 Last year: We were unable to get the bill out of the Rules Committee in Senate. This year: Lead Sponsor in the House is Rep Nelson Dollar, Susan Martin, Josh Dobson and John Torbett. Lead Sponsor in the Senate is Sen. Louis Pate, Ron Rabin and Joyce Krawiec. The Spinal Manipulation was unanimously passed by the House Health Committee on April 25. Rep. Nelson Dollar, sponsor of the bill presented the bill and Rep. Adcock made the motion to move the bill. Then passed the House April 26th by a vote of 109-7.
- Now, please contact your legislator if they voted for the bill. You can go to nclcg tomorrow to find out if you legislator voted in favor of the vote - only 7 voted against the bill. A big thank you to the sponsors of the bill - Representatives Dollar, John Torbett, Susan Martin, and Josh Dobson. We want to especially thank Rep. Nelson Dollar who has worked tirelessly on this bill during the last legislature and this legislature.
- Physical Therapy Licensure Compact- passed.
- The House passed HB 57, the Senate substitute of The Physical Therapy Licensure Compact, today May 30 unanimously by a vote of 108-0. The bill will be presented to the Governor for his signature on Thursday, June 1. HB 57 will improve access to Physical Therapy services and allow military spouses and Physical Therapists from other Compact states to have their licenses mutually recognized by North Carolina. HB 57 will preserve state's rights for accountability to practice standards while promoting licensure portability and enhance cross state health networks.
- The Licensure Compact was amended by Senator Wells in the Senate Health Care Committee adding SB 8, to the Compact legislation. SB 8 would ease occupational licensing burdens on military families by allowing

military members and their spouses to practice their professions under licensure from another state while transitioning to the requirement of the licensing boards of North Carolina. Since the House passed HB 57 without the addition of SB 8, it was necessary that the House pass the amended bill.

- The Physical Therapy Licensure Compact legislation was sponsored by Rep. John Szoka, Representative Grier Martin, and Representative Holly Grange in the House.
- The following states have passed the Physical Therapy Licensure Compact; Oregon, Arizona, Tennessee, Missouri, Montana, Mississippi, North Dakota, Utah, Kentucky, Washington State, and Colorado. Two other states are pending action - Texas and New Hampshire.
- Any states that pass the Compact Licensure legislation by June 13 will be able to serve on the Compact Licensure Commission to help develop the regulations governing the Licensure Compact. NCPTA is working hard to make sure North Carolina passes HB 57 by June 13th

NORTH DAKOTA – Representative: Kevin Axtman

- Bills which have passed the North Dakota Legislature and will go into effect August 1, 2017:
 - SB 2131: Makes it mandatory for all PT/PTA applicants to undergo a criminal background check prior to licensure.
 - HB 1157: Allows North Dakota to join the interstate compact for Physical Therapy. The purpose of the compact is to improve consumer access to physical therapy services by reducing regulatory barriers to interstate mobility.

OHIO – Representative: Michael Bogden

- Nothing to report.

OKLAHOMA– Representative: Josh Williams

- Senate Bill 735 (SB735) was introduced in the Oklahoma legislature this legislative session. This bill would amend Oklahoma Statute 2011 Section 887.10 to allow for the Oklahoma State Board of Medical Licensure & Supervision to issue a multi-state compact license. This license would allow therapists licensed in other states with reciprocal agreements to practice in the state of Oklahoma. This bill would allow for therapists to perform such activities such as sports venue coverage across state lines without risking potential legal ramifications such as practicing without a state license. The bill passed the Oklahoma Senate Committee on Health & Human Services on February 27, 2017. However, the bill was not allowed to be heard in the House Public Health committee and attempts to move the bill to another committee were unsuccessful. The bill will remain alive and may be heard during next year's legislative session.
- Senate Bill 825 (SB 825) was introduced in the Oklahoma legislature. This bill would create a new law that would require the Oklahoma Medicaid Program to pay for physical medicine & rehabilitative services provided by a licensed Athletic Trainer within their scope of practice. This bill was referred to the Health & Human Services Committee as well as the Appropriations Committee. However, it was not allowed to be heard in either committee.
- The Western District of the Oklahoma Physical Therapy Association will be hosting the 2017 Oklahoma Pain Symposium on Saturday, July 8th. For further information and registration, use the following link:
<http://www.okpt.org/?page=17WDPainSympHome>.

OREGON – Representative: Eric Marchek

- SB 217 was introduced to the Oregon legislative session in the 1st quarter of 2017. It would have allowed health professionals who have completed a state accredited certification program in concussion management to release a student athlete to return to play. The bill called out chiropractors and naturopathic physicians specifically, however, the OPTA was actively working to have physical therapists be included on the list of eligible health professionals. The bill died in committee for this legislative session.

PENNSYLVANIA – Representative: Ivan Mulligan

- Nothing to report.

RHODE ISLAND – Representative: Jeff Konin

- H5669 is intended to strengthen and bring our professional practice act up to date for PT's and PTA's. The Practice Act is being opened up for the first time in 1982! It updates term protection, gets rid of the restriction on direct access (currently, PTs need 1 year of experience before seeing direct access patients), and allows PTs to order diagnostic imaging for their patients.
- H5630 is intended to advocate for fair copays and coinsurance in response to the opioid crisis and reduce the financial burden for those who seek access to care in RI. The bill will set the max allowable copay for PT services to be equal to the copay for a PCP visit. By lowering the copays (some of which are as high as \$80/visit), access to PT will be expanded to patients who cannot currently afford it.

SOUTH CAROLINA – Representative: VACANT

- No report submitted.

SOUTH DAKOTA- Representative: VACANT

- No report submitted.

TENNESSEE – Representative: Joe Black

- No Report submitted.

TEXAS – Representative: Toko Nguyen

- Texas was unsuccessful in attaining Direct Access again. The bill made it all the way to the final house floor last week. Two of the representatives we initially had on our side reneged and the bill was voted down.

UTAH- Representative: Brian Boyle

- Nothing to report.

VERMONT - Representative: VACANT

- No report submitted.

VIRGINIA - Representative: Andrew Contreras

- Sexual Abuse of Young Athletes - HR197.
- Rep. Bob Goodlatte (R-VA) along with Rep. Susan Brooks (R-IN), Rep. Lois Frankel (D-FL), and Rep. Martha Roby (R-AL) introduced H.R. 1973, the *Protecting Young Athletes from Sexual Abuse Act*.
- The bill would require adults authorized to interact with minors or amateur athletes to report any suspected incidents of child abuse, including sexual abuse, to the sport's governing body, and it would allow victims of abuse to seek damages in court.
- “H.R. 1973 — 115th Congress: Protecting Young Victims from Sexual Abuse Act of 2017.”
www.GovTrack.us. 2017. May 22, 2017 <<https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr1973>>

WASHINGTON – Representative: Samantha Gubka

- No Report submitted.

WEST VIRGINIA - Representative: VACANT

- No report submitted

WISCONSIN – Representative: Steven McCoy

- We are still awaiting final rules promulgation for the x-ray legislation, but that seems to be happening slowly and far behind the scenes. There is also some legislation being proposed by the Governor to consolidate various

medical examining boards as a cost saving measure. This is being strongly opposed by everyone (PT, AT, etc), and it seems likely to be pulled from the floating ideas.

WYOMING - Representative: VACANT

- No report submitted.