

STATE REPRESENTATIVE NETWORK, SPTS
2017 – 4th 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	Delaware	Michigan	New Mexico
South Carolina	Vermont	West Virginia	

I'd like to also welcome and say a special thank you to our newest members, Hollan Oliver (Maine), Jeffrey Swiers (Ohio), Matt Dewald (South Dakota), Andrea Johnson (Alabama) and Tom Davis (Wyoming). Your time is greatly appreciated.

ALABAMA – Representative: Andrea Johnson

- Nothing to report.

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

- No report submitted.

DELAWARE – Representative: VACANT

- No report submitted.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA- Representative: Tim Vidale

- No report submitted.

FLORIDA – Representative: Patrick Pabian

- No report submitted.

GEORGIA – Representative: Ross Brakeville

- In cooperation with the Golf Special Interest Group, Adaptive Golf Academy and Georgia State Golf Association; the first “Adaptive Golf as Therapy” seminar was conducted in Marietta Georgia on October 28, 2017. The program’s objective is to develop partnerships between Physical Therapists and PGA professionals to: Enhance Lives through Golf, with focus on those with special needs.

HAWAII – Representative: Ryan Moore

- There is growing support to move towards requiring all licensed PTs and PTAs to use FSBPTs aPTitude online module to upload and track CEUs and course certificates, but will not likely happen until after the current renewal period (through December 31st, 2018).
- The use of telemedicine for licensed physical therapists is currently being considered by the state board, taking into consideration possible limited access to specialists that may be spread across the different islands and otherwise difficult or costly to access. The consideration to add telemedicine to the current scope of practice of PTs in Hawai'i is still in the early phases of planning. The state board deferred further decision regarding telemedicine until it can be discussed with the deputy attorney general. Currently HMSA, Hawai'i's largest health insurance provider, utilizes an online care module for patient's to access certain physician consultation services 24/7, as well as trauma physicians and speech pathology and audiology services at the state's only level 1 trauma center, The Queen's Medical Center.

IDAHO – Representative: Kyle Sela

- Nothing to report.

ILLINOIS – Representative: Anne Bierman

- Nothing to report.

INDIANA- Representative: Shane Sommers

- Nothing to report.

IOWA – Representative: Shane McClinton

- The IPTA Legislative Day is scheduled for February 6th, 2018 at the Iowa State Capital. Visit http://www.iowaapta.org/index.cfm/49396/89323/ipta_legislative_day <http://www.iowaapta.org/> for more information.

KANSAS – Representative: Daniel Lorenz

- 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

- Nothing to report.

MASSACHUSETTS- Representative: Malia Koppin

- H.2972 (Rep. David M. Nagle) An Act Relative to pediatric plans of care: would improve PT care to children with disabilities by authorizing all treatments within plan of care.
- H.2165 (Rep. Carolyn C. Dykema) An Act ensuring consumer choice of health care providers: would ensure that patients maintain the right to choose their providers by stating that insurance carriers or ACO's cannot obstruct patient choice of health care providers if the provider is licensed, located in the geographic coverage of the health benefit plan and is willing to meet the terms of the carrier.
- S.310 (Sen. Michael Rush) An Act relative to student safety in interscholastic athletic activities: Would require that a licensed athletic trainer be employed by a superintendent or school committee at every high school in the commonwealth offering interscholastic athletic activities.

MICHIGAN--Representative: VACANT

- No report submitted.

MINNESOTA – Representative: Amanda Frake

- Nothing to report.

MISSISSIPPI – Representative: Meredith Warf

- Nothing to report.

MISSOURI- Representative: Chuck Rainey

- Nothing to report.

MONTANA – Representative: John-Henry Anderson

- No report submitted.

NEBRASKA – Representative: Dan McCutchen

- Legislation is being drafted to include the state of Nebraska in the physical therapy compact.
- With the leadership of the Nebraska Physical Therapy Association, physical therapists are meeting with Medicaid companies to improve communication, efficiency, payment, and credentialing.

NEVADA- Representative: Steven Liaos

- The NVPTA Nominations Committee is pleased to announce the results of our election. Thank you to all the candidates for your willingness to serve the NVPTA and for your commitment to the physical therapy profession.
- NVPTA 2017 Election Results:
 - Vice President: RJ Williams
 - Treasurer: Steve Liaos
 - Member at Large: Laura Cerame
 - Nominations Committee: Carrie Gillis
 - Northern District Delegate: Justina Walters
 - PTA Caucus Rep: Keith McKeever
 - Southern District Secretary: Trevor Mahoney
- SB 437 signed into law by Governor Brian Sandoval:
 - Changed the name of the board to “Nevada Physical Therapy Board”
 - Allowed the board by majority vote to select individuals to serve as Advisory (non-voting) members.
 - Provides Inspectors with citation ability to allow the Board to more efficiently handle some of the

- NRS and NAC infractions.
- Modified the Board representation to include a physical therapist assistant member.
- Strengthens and protects the term “physical therapy” as well the titles “physical therapist,” “P.T.,” and “physical therapy assistant,” “P.T.A.” Those found to be in violation of this statute may be subject to a misdemeanor and/or financial penalties.

NEW HAMPSHIRE – Representative: Greg Alnwick

- Nothing to report.

NEW JERSEY – Representative: Edison Au

- Nothing to report.

NEW MEXICO--Representative: VACANT

- No report submitted.

NEW YORK – Representative: Terrance Sgroi

- Governor Cuomo vetoed the PTA/Workers Comp bill.
 - Bill related to care provided by the PTA within the Workers’ Compensation System has been vetoed by Governor Cuomo.
- Events or activities sponsored by PT group or NY State chapter:
 - 12th Annual HSS Sports Symposium April 21-22.
 - The 12th Annual HSS Sports Medicine Symposium will provide clinicians with guidance on how to care for surgical and nonsurgical patients among the sports medicine population. Topics to be discussed include the athlete’s hip, meniscal surgery and rehabilitation of the knee, the throwing elbow and managing patellofemoral disease in the athlete. The best available evidence and state-of-the-art information from the rehabilitation staff, surgeons, and physicians of Hospital for Special Surgery, along with guest lecturers, will provide participants with clinically relevant information through didactic lectures, panel discussions, case presentations, workshops and Q&A sessions.

NORTH CAROLINA –Ann Marie Husk

- The North Carolina Business Court has ruled that physical therapists may perform dry needling.
- The Court’s ruling affirms a decision by the North Carolina Board of Physical Therapy Examiners that reached the following conclusions:
 - "The scope of physical therapy under North Carolina law includes dry needling."
 - Dry needling is distinct from acupuncture."
 - The Acupuncture Board "fails to recognize that health professions are allowed to have overlapping scope of practice."
 - "North Carolina public policy favors patient choice in health care."
 - However, the Acupuncture Board has the right to appeal the Business Court’s ruling that physical therapists may perform dry needling.
 - The NCPTA is committed to that federal lawsuit for as long as it takes.
 - Please consider a [contribution to our legal defense fund](#)
- NCPTA and APTA Leadership Meet with State Officials on Opioid Crisis:
 - NCPTA President Kyle Covington, Executive Director Nancy Garland, lobbyist Alex Miller, and APTA Payment Policy Specialist Alice Bell met with state officials in Raleigh on October 31 to discuss the role of Physical Therapy in the opioid crisis.

- They met with representatives from the Governor's staff Daryl Childers, the Attorney General's staff, Steve Mange, Dr. Nancy Henley the State's Chief Medical Officer and the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Assistant Secretary of Legislation Ben Popkin.
- One of the main barriers to patients receiving physical therapy in North Carolina is the high co-pay that many patients are required to pay to receive physical therapy treatment. It was pointed out that co-pays can sometime be \$50-\$60 per visit.

NORTH DAKOTA – Representative: Kevin Axtman

- Nothing to report.

OHIO – Representative: Jeffrey Swiers

- House Bill 131 was introduced into the 132nd general assembly in Ohio which focused on Physical Therapists being able to make a Physical Therapy diagnosis within their scope of practice and to also allow the ordering of appropriate tests, including diagnostic imaging and studies, that are performed and interpreted by other licensed health care professionals. The Bill has now been referred to the House Health Committee. After hearings, changes were made to the original bill including clarifications as noted and is now known as Substitute House Bill 131:
- Defining what a “Physical therapy diagnosis” entails as well as highlighting that a Physical Therapy diagnosis does not include a medical diagnosis of disease.
- Adjustment to the imaging/appropriate tests to include only x-rays or plain film x-rays if the PT holds a Doctorate degree from an accredited institution, which is then interpreted by a physician who is board-certified in radiology. PT's who do not hold a doctorate degree would be required to take continuing education before ordering x-rays and plain film x-rays.
- After four official committee hearings and two interested party meetings, there is a strong grassroots effort in Ohio for Students, Physical Therapists, and Physical Therapists Assistants to reach out to their representatives regarding this issue in an effort to get Sub House Bill 131 passed.

OKLAHOMA– Representative: Josh Williams

- The state budget passed by the Oklahoma Legislature during the 2017 legislative session was ruled unconstitutional this past summer. The legislature was called into a special session that began on September 25, 2017 to attempt to resolve the budget issue. After nearly two months of debate, the legislature passed HB 1019X on November 17, 2017. This bill used temporary monies and stopgaps to sustain the current fiscal year's budget. However, Governor Mary Fallin immediately performed line item vetoes on a majority of the bill's content citing the temporary nature of the fix and the ensuing \$600 million dollar shortfall it would create for the 2018-2019 fiscal year budget that would be developed in the upcoming legislative session in February. Therefore, the legislature will be called into a 2nd special session in attempts to resolve Oklahoma's budget crisis. However, the Governor did sustain funding for several important health organizations including the Departments of Health, Human Services, and Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services as well as the Oklahoma Health Care Authority. You can view the Governor's full press release regarding the veto at https://www.ok.gov/triton/modules/newsroom/newsroom_article.php?id=223&article_id=37907

OREGON – Representative: Eric Marchek

- There have been ongoing discussion and work to re-introduce a bill in Oregon that would allow health professionals who complete a state accredited certification program in concussion management to release an athlete to return to play status. Physical therapists would be among the health professionals included in the bill. The bill may be introduced in the 1st quarter of the 2018 session.

PENNSYLVANIA – Representative: Ivan Mulligan

- The PPTA has been active on the legislative front this year. Specifically, there are two efforts that are currently underway:
- HB 1836- has been introduced to enable PA to join the compact for PT licensure. This legislation has received

good support since being introduced October 11, 2017. The Bill has been passed out of committee and is now awaiting action by the House.

- The PPTA is investigating the potential for practice changes to enable PTs to practice to the fullest extent of its education. Items such as unrestricted direct access are being considered. It is anticipated that a bill will be introduced next year.
- The Governor of Pennsylvania signed an executive order at the end of October ordering all State Licensure Boards, to review Practice Acts and report how these acts may be limiting professionals in the Commonwealth. This process is to take 180 days with a report to be generated for the Governor's review at the conclusion of the review. We look forward to providing any information we can to the State Board and look forward to the report generated.

RHODE ISLAND – Representative: Jeff Konin

- Nothing to report.

SOUTH CAROLINA – Representative: VACANT

- No report submitted.

SOUTH DAKOTA- Representative: Matt Dewald

- We have finally gotten continue education requirements in the state, PTs would be required to have 15 hours every year for renewal of licensure starting in January 1st, 2018.
- Intention of submitting to the 2018 Spring legislature a statute that would allow PTs to perform dry needling.
- Planning to go to the legislature in Spring 2019 to request PT Licensure Board under the Department of Health.

TENNESSEE – Representative: Joe Black

- No report submitted.

TEXAS – Representative: Toko Nguyen

- Nothing to report.

UTAH- Representative: Brian Boyle

- Nothing to report.

VERMONT - Representative: VACANT

- No report submitted.

VIRGINIA - Representative: Andrew Contreras

- Nothing to report.

WASHINGTON – Representative: Samantha Gubka

- No report submitted.

WEST VIRGINIA - Representative: VACANT

- No report submitted

WISCONSIN – Representative: Steven McCoy

- The legislative ruling PT-10, which allows some physical therapists in Wisconsin to order x-rays, officially went into effect August 1, 2017.
 - Details relating to required qualifications for physical therapists to order x-rays can be found at: http://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/code/admin_code/pt/10.
- The WPTA is part of a coalition of healthcare providers represented on the state Worker's Compensation

Advisory Council. WPTA, Wisconsin Medical Association, and Wisconsin Hospital Association all oppose the council's efforts to establish a Worker's Comp Fee Schedule.

WYOMING - Representative: Tom Davis

- Nothing to report.