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Our Vision

Transforming the diverse communities in Maryland to advance health and wellness by optimizing movement and function across the lifespan.

January 28, 2025

The Honorable Pam Beidle, Chair
Finance Committee
3 East, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: Senate Bill 47– State Board of Physical Therapy Examiners – Revisions
Position: SUPPORT

Dear Chair Beidle,

The American Physical Therapy Association Maryland is writing to register our support of Senate Bill 47. The purpose of this legislation is to:

- Clarify the definition of "physical therapist assistant" as used in the Maryland Physical Therapy Act to mean an individual licensed by the State Board of Physical Therapy Examiners;
- increase the membership of the State Board of Physical Therapy Examiners from 8 to 9; and
- requiring the Board to send renewal notices to licensees by electronic means, rather than first-class mail, unless the licensee requests to receive the renewal notice by first-class mail.

The mission of the Board is to protect the health, safety, and welfare of all Marylanders through the promotion and oversight of the Physical Therapy Practice Act. This bill makes important and necessary changes to the structure and functioning of the Board. Electronic notification is more efficient and less expensive and adding a PTA to the board is more reflective of the workforce and enhances points of view and is more inclusive. This addition of a board member also brings the board total to an odd number to avoid gridlock.

APTA Maryland supports legislation that strengthens and clarifies the operations and duties of the Board of Physical Therapy Examiners.

For the reasons noted above we ask for a favorable report on Senate Bill 47.

Sincerely,



Roy Film, PT, DPT, MPT
President, APTA Maryland