

**HEATHER BAGNALL**  
*Legislative District 33C*  
Anne Arundel County



*Annapolis Office*  
The Maryland House of Delegates  
6 Bladen Street, Room 160  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
410-841-3406 · 301-858-3406  
800-492-7122 Ext. 3406  
Heather.Bagnall@house.state.md.us

Health and Government Operations  
Committee  
*Subcommittees*

Health Occupations and Long-Term Care

Public Health and  
Minority Health Disparities

**THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES**  
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**HB3 – State Board of Physical Therapy Examiners – Revisions**

Good morning, Madame Chair, Vice Chair, and members of the Health and Government Operations Committee. Thank you for the opportunity to present House Bill 3.

The field of Physical Therapy is critical for maintaining and improving the health and well-being of Maryland residents. Licensed physical therapists are overseen by the Board of Physical Therapy Examiners. Without timely updates in how the Board approaches administrative practices, the overall health of communities served by those licensed by the Board could be jeopardized. HB3 is a simple bill to ensure that the State Board of Physical Therapy Examiners meets current needs of licensees, and ensures access to quality care and efficiency in administrative practices.

HB3 modernizes the Board of Physical Therapists in two ways: the bill expands membership of the Board by one member, required to be a Physical Therapist Assistant, and changes the default of communication from the Board from postal mail to E-mail. By increasing the number of licensed physical therapist assistants on the Board from one to two, this bill ensures the Board has capacity to meet their administrative needs, and by requiring the new member is a physical therapist assistant, strengthens equity throughout the decision-making process. Likewise, requiring that license renewal notices be sent electronically unless otherwise requested improves efficiency, reduces costs, and aligns Board practices with modern communication standards.

HB3 represents an updated approach to regulations in healthcare professions, fostering both efficiency and inclusivity for practitioners and patients. For these reasons, I respectfully ask for a favorable report on HB3.