

APTA Maryland

Board of Directors

President

Kevin Platt, PT, DPT, MBA

President Elect

JD Sheppard, PT, DPT

Vice President

Roy Film, PT, DPT, MPT

Secretary

Rachel Skolky, PT, DPT

Treasurer

Melissa Reinhardt, PT, MSPT

Director for Education

Gretchen Michaels, PT

Director for Gov't Relations

JD Sheppard, PT, DPT

Director for Reimbursement

Carol Zehnacker, PT, DPT, MS

Director

Monique Caruth, PT, DPT

Director

Richard T. Peret, PT

Chief Delegate

Linda Horn, PT, DScPT

February 16, 2021

The Honorable Paul Pinsky, Chair
Senate Education, Health and Environmental Affairs Committee
2 West, Miller Senate Office Building
11 Bladen Street
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: Senate Bill 517 – State Board of Physical Therapy Examiners - Temporary Licenses to Practice Physical Therapy and Limited Physical Therapy- SUPPORT

Dear Chair Pinsky,

The American Physical Therapy Association Maryland is writing to register our support of Senate Bill 517.

The purpose of this legislation is to provide the Board of Physical Therapy Examiners the authority to issue temporary licenses to practice physical therapy and limited physical therapy to physical therapist and physical therapist assistant applicants who have been determined to be eligible for initial licensure but have not yet taken and passed the national licensure exam.

Temporary licensure would allow these applicants to practice under the direct supervision of a licensed physical therapist for a limited period of time pending successfully passing the exam. Allowing these applicants to practice under a temporary license will allow them to maintain competence between graduation and licensure and earn an income while studying for the national licensure exam.

APTA Maryland supports legislation that would allow for a temporary license to be issued to an individual who has completed a physical therapy or physical therapist assistant curriculum. This would authorize the holder to practice limited physical therapy under direct supervision while the temporary license is effective.

For the reasons noted above we ask for a favorable report on Senate Bill 517.

Sincerely,



Kevin Platt, PT, DPT, MBA
President, APTA Maryland