

February 23, 2022

Representatives Zack Fields & Ivy Spohnholz Co-Chairs House Labor & Commerce Committee Alaska State Capitol

Dear Co-Chairs and Committee Members:

The Alaska Chapter of the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA) is writing to support HB 323 to extend the sunset date of the State Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy Board. Our association represents 450 professionals practicing physical therapy in Alaska, and we appreciate the important professional role the PT/OT Board plays in ensuring high quality care for Alaskans receiving these important services.

Specific benefits of these services include ensuring appropriate credentialing of physical therapists (PT) and physical therapist assistants (PTA), monitoring continuing education requirements, monitoring ethical and criminal wrongdoings, and generally protecting the public by overseeing the qualifications and actions of PTs and PTAs.

As the recent state audit found, this is a highly functioning and professional board, and we appreciated the Legislature's expeditious review of HB 323.

Sincerely

Alec Kay, **F**T, DMT, ATC, FAAOMPT APTA Alaska, President