

March 3, 2022

Senator Mia Costello Chairs Senate Labor & Commerce Committee Alaska State Capitol

Dear Senate Labor and Commerce Committee Members:

The Alaska Chapter of the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA) is writing to support SB222 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 compliance with continuing education requirements, monitoring ethical and criminal wrongdoings, and generally protecting the public by overseeing the qualification 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 SB222.

Sincerely.

Alec Kay, PT, DMT, ATC, FAAOMPT

APTA Alaska, president