

October, 2017

Committee Name: **State Government Affairs**

Committee Chair: Cynthia Driskell, PT

Thanks to 2017 Committee members for their participation: John Heick (Board Liaison), Kay Wing, Phil Tygeil, Cory Manton, Helene Fearon, Jim Roush, Al D'Appolonio, Karen Donahue, Karl Burris, Blair Packard, Peg Hiller, Jennifer Zoucha, James Tompkins,, Andy Moriarty, Heidi Jannega, Kadeen Mansor , Beth Horn, Laura Markey .

Thanks to our Legislative lobbyist, DORN POLICY GROUP with Tom, Dorn, Carly Daniels, and Eric Emmert.

PT Interstate Licensure Compact 14 states, including AZ, have now adopted the compact, and the newly formed Commission will have its first meeting in November, 2017. Melinda Richardson, PT , President of the Arizona Board of Physical Therapy, has participated as Arizona's delegate to formation of the Commission. Bylaws and rules will be adopted, with the Commission becoming active in 2018. Several other states will consider compact language in 2018. For a map of participating states, go to www.fsbpt.org.

Arizona Radiation Regulatory Agency In July, 2017, the Agency concluded that physical therapists may apply for a registration of their non-ionizing laser devices. The registration issued to physical therapists will be a medical laser registration (required for Class III/IV lasers). The link for registration forms and instructions: <https://arra.az.gov/nonionizing-facility-registration-instructions/medical-laser-facilities/class-ii-surgical>. Physical therapist are required to show documentation of their training on lasers during any compliance inspections done by the Agency.

Minimum Data Set Legislation on collecting minimum data set (workforce data) for health professionals, including physical therapists, has not passed recent attempts at the Legislature. Currently, a private research survey is being conducted by ATSU on current manpower and work force data. AzPTA members are encouraged to respond to the online survey circulated in September.

APTA State Policy and Payment Forum for 2017 was held in Detroit, MI Sept 16-17. Cynthia Driskell and Kadeen Mansor attended on behalf of State Government Affairs. Topics reviewed included PT interstate licensure compact, dry needling, scope of practice issues with athletic trainers, state regulatory board consolidation, initiatives on opioid addiction.

Board of Physical Therapy As required by Executive Order from Gov. Ducey, the Board office will move in December, 2017 to a state government office building at 1740 W. Adams, along with 26 other Boards and agencies. Check the Board website for details on location and parking later this fall.

Legislative Agenda for 2018:

- 1) With AzPTA chapter support, submit legislation to change the regulatory designation in AZ from 'PT' to "DPT".
- 2) Meet with AIA regarding concussion and return to play decisions, ask for inclusion of PTs. Pursue legislative change for this inclusion.
- 3) Continue input to the Board of PT on rules review. Topics under consideration for rules review include mandatory continuing competence for physical therapist assistants, compact privilege fees, telehealth.