



The American Physical Therapy Association (APTA) is governed by a representative body elected from the membership – the House of Delegates – and managed by the Board of Directors. Each year, the House of Delegates (“House”) convenes to set policy and positions for the physical therapist profession and for the association. The House is also responsible for electing members of the APTA Board of Directors and Nominating Committee.

The Oregon delegation includes 7 delegates including the chief delegate, the Physical Therapist Assistant Caucus (PTAC) Rep, alternate PT and PTA reps, and one PT and one PTA student who are chosen as Emerging Student Leaders. Even though only the primary 7 delegates actually participate in the voting, the Oregon delegation works as a team. All members share equally in the work of preparing for the House, meeting virtually once a month prior to the official House proceedings.

The House consists of a hybrid format. This year the House met virtually on July 30 and in person over two days August 14 and 15. During the virtual meeting on July 30, APTA elections were conducted (<https://www.apta.org/news/2022/07/30/apta-2022-house-of-delegates-election-results-announced>). The House also discussed a report from a workgroup on Year-Round Governance Review (in response to a motion from 2021). This report gave various options for how the business of the House could be completed more efficiently and effectively, and there was quite a bit of discussion. Most recommendations will need House and/or Board action to be implemented, and the House officers are seeking feedback until January 2023.

The August in-person meetings were located in Washington DC and were held concurrently with the inaugural APTA Leadership Congress, an event that brings together leaders in the PT profession. This year’s leadership congress included a keynote address by Stephanie J. Creary, PhD, about advancing DEI within the profession, as well as the John H.P. Maley lecture given by Susan Whitney entitled “Exercise Is Our Medicine”.

A total of 23 motions were prepared in advance of the August session, with the House considering 19 motions and passing 17 (one was withdrawn, and one was referred to the APTA Board of Directors with a report requested in 2023). Among the motions that passed were position statements regarding non-pharmacological management of blood pressure in physical

therapy, improving access to physical therapy in the prenatal and postpartum periods, improving access to PTs as entry-point practitioners for activity participation and disability determination, increasing advocacy for improving access to PT services for Medicaid beneficiaries, supporting equitable processes for including those with disabilities within the PT profession, and adopting APTA's commitment to being inclusive within LGBTQIA+ populations. Additionally, several motions passed that charged the APTA with action, including pursuing direct-to-employer PT services, exploring opportunities to enhance engagement and collaboration within PT practice, and evaluating continuing competency requirements across all PT practice jurisdictions. Additional information about the 2022 House proceedings can be found at APTA's website: <https://www.apta.org/article/2022/08/22/2022-hod-recap>

Respectfully submitted,
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