Dear Representative/Senator xxxx,

The Physical Therapy Licensure Compact (PTLC) is a contract individual states can join to allow physical therapists (PTs) and physical therapist assistants (PTAs) easier access to extend their license privileges in other states. Under the PTLC, PTs and PTAs licensed in their home state and holding a Compact License are able to practice in any other participating state (s) without having to undergo a redundant, lengthy and costly licensure process in each state. To date, 26 states have passed Compact legislation, and three others (including PA) have introduced legislation.

Passage of PTLC legislation is critical for a number of reasons including:

* Reducing licensure barriers, particularly for military spouses
* Improving access to health care,
* Ensuring patient safety via a state-based regulatory system that exchanges licensure, investigative, and disciplinary information

In response to the frequent moves that military service personnel and their spouses have to make, state laws require a new license in each state where they live prior to practicing physical therapy. This important legislation, which is supported by the National Military Family Association, would allow military spouse licensees to begin practicing PT promptly when they receive a permanent change of station order. As a result, military spouses will not have to endure the administrative burden of securing a new license and will have the opportunity to more easily integrate into their new communities.

Additionally, the PTLC may improve public access to PT services in all areas including underserved areas by decreasing the barriers that PTs and PTAs currently face when crossing state lines. Incidentally, Pennsylvania has one of the largest elderly populations in the country, and it is essential that these individuals are able to access the services they need to ensure a high quality of life. We can help to achieve this by facilitating a PT/PTA-friendly job market in order to attract high-caliber therapists who will provide timely and needed therapy services in Pennsylvania which can be a non-pharmacologic option for pain management.

Introduced as HB862 (Representative Barrar) and SB640 (Senator Boscola), the PTLC has support from a bi-partisan slate of co-sponsors in Pennsylvania’s General Assembly. I am writing to ask for your support of this important legislation. Thank you for consideration of this very important matter.

Sincerely,

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