

The RT Licensure Committee for PA has been actively working on getting letters of support from disability advocacy groups, healthcare and community providers, and healthcare professions. We have received support from 20+ organizations representing over 350,000 people in Pennsylvania. The Dept of State was impressed by these numbers and the organizations we were able to secure support. Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy continue to fight our licensure efforts, claiming that our scope of practice infringes on their scope of practice. Additional language is being added to our bill stating that our bill will not prohibit any profession that is currently licensed or regulated from practicing their scope of practice. It is hoped that this will help resolve some of the issues.

We are also exploring the possibility of securing a Senator to co-sponsor the bill with Rep. Sabatina to strengthen the bill's support.

Once the bill is rewritten we will need to get co-sponsors for the bill. Representatives who co-sponsored HB 2290 will be contacted again by Rep. Sabatina to sign onto the newly written bill. Once the bill has been written, you will receive another email blast with more information about the bill (e.g., the bill #), along with instructions on how you can help get co-sponsors.

Thanks for your continued support of this much needed effort. Remember, there are over 1,600 people in PA who claim to be a Recreational Therapist, but only HALF possess the CTRS credential. Licensure will require Recreational Therapists to obtain and maintain the CTRS credential, as this credential verifies that Recreational Therapists possess the basic competencies to practice. This is needed to ensure the safety of PA citizens.

Sincerely,
Heather Porter

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