



*Welcome to the inaugural Public Policy Newsletter. Our committee is hard at work as we start the next legislative cycle for the 2019-2020 period. Our committee continues to deal with all issues related to legislative, payment, reimbursement, insurance and political action committee activities. We look forward to hearing from you.*

## PHYSICAL THERAPY INSURANCE & REIMBURSEMENT

### Reimbursement

- Everyone should have recently seen a (\$3) increase from Tufts.
- Committee plans 2019-2020 are to meet with local payors to establish high level relationships.
- Continue to work with Jay Youmens & Tom Magnan from Smith, Costello & Crawford, Public Policy

### New Resource!

- A subcommittee is working to create a slide deck on value proposition for **increasing physical therapy access to those with low back pain.**
- Present and educate higher level admin in our local HMO's to understand how PT can be a high value, low cost initiative.

### Insurance Updates

- MIPS are open for 2019, [find out if you are mandated or eligible:](#)
- Representatives from PPC attending listening sessions:
- Mass Health to advocate for updated regulations for treatment provided by PTA. (Expected by 11/2019)
- W/C to advocate for rate and regulations changes.

### CONTACT

PPC Chairs: [Kevin Flaherty](#) & [James Casady](#)

Political Action Committee Chair: [Judy Hershberg](#)

Newsletter Author, in collaboration with PPC: [Maegen Brady](#)

[APTAMA Website](#) and on Facebook [APTAMA Website](#)



## Political Action Committee

Thank you to those that attended the event for **Senate President Karen Spilka**, a longtime supporter of physical therapy.

Our next event will be for the **Speaker of the House, Bob DeLeo**, to continue to build relationships with leadership in the legislature. Spring 2019.

[Donate now to help us maintain a voice in the Massachusetts Legislation.](#)

## PT DAY ON THE HILL

*Monday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>; 9:30am-1:00pm; MA State House*

[JOIN OVER 200 PT, PTA, AND STUDENTS TO ADVOCATE FOR OUR PROFESSION](#)

## NATIONAL STUDENT ADVOCACY DINNERS

*Springfield, MA – March 2*

*Worcester, MA – March 13*

*Boston, MA – March TBD*

[Questions? hrgjennings@gmail.com](mailto:hrgjennings@gmail.com)

## APTA Federal Advocacy Forum

*Washington, D.C. - March 30<sup>th</sup>-April 1<sup>st</sup>*

[Advocate for PT on the national level](#)



## LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

**The MA legislative cycle runs from 2019-2020. We are continuing to work with our lobbyists, Jack McGlynn and Beth Mullen, regarding legislative issues that affect PT. Top priorities of APTAMA for this cycle**

Build relationships with National Athletic Training Association of MA. APTA and NATA have recently entered a formal partnership [3 min read](#)

- Work towards language for updated Athletic Training scope of practice that aligns with educational training.
- Current language proposed adds treatment of illness and the industrial care setting.

**SUPPORT** youth safety in athletics by adding physical therapists to the providers that could release a student to return to play after concussion protocol. (HD3549)

**Maintain the right of PT to perform dry needling.**

- **OPPOSE** legislation that would prohibit or restrict practice. Collaborating with Board of Professional Licensure on Guidelines for the Practice of Dry Needling.

Work towards **inclusion in the PT licensure compact** that would allow PTs to practice in other states that are participating without applying for separate licensure. (HD3829)

[Found out what the compact is here.](#)