

## **November 2017 Legislative Committee YEAR END Report**

For the 2017 legislative session, the primary objective was to monitor proposed legislation and its impact on the practice of physical therapy. One piece of legislation in particular that we followed:

**HB 1289** – proposed licensure for massage therapists; much to our dismay the bill did pass although for much of the session, the Committee and House leadership said the bill would not be heard or not receive a vote.

In 2018 we will closely watch for legislation supporting insurance reimbursement for massage therapists which is usually the next step after licensure.

The Legislative Committee is actively working on drafting a revised practice act using the model practice act as a guide. Goal for the 2018 legislative session is to build strong relationships and coalitions to support a revised practice act and then introduce the legislation in 2019. Our intention is to try to work in collaboration with the chiropractors on adding dry needling to both of our practice acts. At this time the chiropractors are planning on introducing legislation in 2018.

The Legislative Committee will support and assist the Public Relations Committee with PT Day at the Statehouse in January 2018, with the goal of identifying legislators to champion a resolution related to the #ChoosePT campaign as a way to fight the opioid crisis.

Many thanks to the hardworking Legislative Committee:

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Steve Beebe  
Deanna Hayes  
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