



(S.9005/A.10005) PPGG Article VII Bill Part X

MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT

The American Physical Therapy Association's New York Chapter (APTA New York), which represents the interests of 30,000 physical therapists, physical therapist assistants and physical therapy students in New York, supports Governor Hochul's proposal relating to increasing access to medical care for injured workers.

The Governor's proposal would eliminate the requirement for medical providers to be authorized by the Chair of the Workers' Compensation Board in order to participate in the workers' compensation system. If enacted, this proposal will expand the options for medical providers for injured workers, in turn leading to increased patient access to care. APTA New York supports the Governor's proposal as part of our broader efforts to increase patient access to care.

APTA New York recognizes that removing barriers to care will improve patient access. The Governor's proposal to expand the options for medical providers for injured workers is an important step in the fight to improve patient access to care in New York. Expanding the pool of eligible health care providers means that there will be more providers available to treat injured workers, resulting in faster treatment and allowing workers to heal more quickly and get back to work.

New York's health care system struggles with high costs, substandard outcomes, and overuse of opioids to treat chronic pain. We are proud of our profession and the growing body of evidence which recognizes physical therapy as the most cost effective treatment of choice for many neuromusculoskeletal conditions. Physical therapy lowers health care costs and produces better outcomes.

We ask for your continued assistance to enable your constituents to take advantage of physical therapy's successful outcomes. Our legislative agenda focuses on eliminating barriers to physical therapy care, and ensuring access statewide.

For these reasons, APTA New York supports the inclusion of PPGG Article VII Bill Part X in the enacted budget.