

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO.50

Reps. Rogers, Steckloff, Puri, Sneller, Brixie, Weiss, Morse, Breen, Wozniak, Lightner, Whiteford, Beson, Cambensy, Brabec, Neeley, Aiyash, Rabhi, Young, Lasinski, Stone, Shannon, Sowerby, Garza, Hertel, Hood, Haadsma, O'Neal, Borton, Cavanagh, Scott, Slagh, LaGrand, Anthony, Manoogian, Bolden, Kuppa, Bezotte and Kahle offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to honor the 100th anniversary of the American
2 Physical Therapy Association.

3 Whereas, Reconstruction aides, strong women who were the
4 predecessors to current physical therapists, were integral to the
5 recovery of many World War I soldiers and demonstrated their value
6 as medical professionals and war heroes, showing that those who
7 would eventually be known as physical therapists had a major role
8 to play in the future of America's health; and

1 Whereas, Mary McMillan, a reconstruction aide, was elected in
2 1921 as the first president of the American Women's Physical
3 Therapeutic Association; and

4 Whereas, The Michigan chapter of the American Physiotherapy
5 Association (APA) had its start in October 1923 when the Detroit
6 Physiotherapy Group held its first meeting at which Helen King was
7 elected as Chairman; and

8 Whereas, The Michigan chapter of the APA was formally
9 established in 1930, the same year the APA convention (which was
10 held in conjunction with the American Medical Association
11 Convention) was held in Detroit with assistance from the Michigan
12 Chapter; and

13 Whereas, Emma Vogel initiated the first War emergency training
14 course of World War II at Walter Reed General Hospital in 1941,
15 consisting of six months of concentrated didactic instruction
16 followed by six months of supervised practice at a military
17 hospital; and

18 Whereas, Lucy Blair was a part of Dr. Jonas Salk's national
19 response to the polio epidemic in the early 1950s, serving as the
20 staff coordinator for physical therapists; and

21 Whereas, The first physical therapy education program in
22 Michigan began in 1952 at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor
23 and the effort to launch a two-year graduate education program for
24 physical therapists began at Case Western Reserve University in
25 Cleveland, Ohio in 1960; and

26 Whereas, The first two classes of physical therapist
27 assistants entered the workforce after graduating in 1969 from
28 education programs at Miami-Dade Community College in Florida and
29 St. Mary's Junior College in Minnesota (now St. Catherine

University) and the first class of Michigan physical therapist assistants graduated in 1973 from Kellogg Community College in Battle Creek; and

Whereas, The first physical therapy department at a Historically Black College or University was established at Howard University in 1974; and

Whereas, APTA in 1978 launched the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy, which gained national recognition by the U.S. Department of Education and the Council for Higher Education Accreditation as the sole entity that grants specialized accreditation status to qualified entry-level education programs for physical therapists and physical therapist assistants; and

Whereas, The first doctor of physical therapy students graduated from Creighton University in 1996. As of 2015, all physical therapists are educated at the clinical doctoral level including those who graduate from the seven physical therapy education programs in Michigan; and

Whereas, The vision of the physical therapy profession is: transforming society by optimizing movement to improve the human experience; and

Whereas, The U.S. Department of Health & Human Services indicates that more than 80% of adults and adolescents do not get enough physical activity and that regular activity is one of the most important ways to improve health. This makes physical therapists and physical therapist assistants critical to health services teams as movement experts who improve quality of life by addressing pain or chronic conditions that limit participation in activities, and by reducing the risk for chronic diseases, enhancing fitness, and preventing injuries through hands-on care,

1 patient education, and prescribed movement based on rigorous
2 research; and

3 Whereas, Physical therapists and physical therapist assistants
4 treat people where they are, providing care to people in many
5 settings, including hospitals, private practices, outpatient
6 clinics, homes, schools, sports teams, fitness facilities, the U.S.
7 Armed Services, veterans' facilities, work settings, and nursing
8 homes; and

9 Whereas, Physical therapists and physical therapist assistants
10 treat individuals across the lifespan and have clinical expertise
11 in 18 specialty areas: Acute Care, Aquatics, Cardiovascular and
12 Pulmonary, Clinical Electrophysiology and Wound Management,
13 Education, Federal, Geriatrics, Hand and Upper Extremity, Health
14 Policy and Administration, Home Health, Neurology, Oncology,
15 Orthopedics, Pediatrics, Pelvic Health, Private Practice, Research,
16 and Sports; and

17 Whereas, Physical therapy is effective in reducing pain, such
18 as low back pain. This is evidenced by a growing body of research
19 for physical therapist treatment of low back pain that includes a
20 2018 study published in Health Services Research showing that
21 physical therapy as a first-line approach not only saves money but
22 also dramatically reduces the chance of receiving a prescription
23 for dangerous opioids; and

24 Whereas, Students of physical therapy are being educated to
25 address the health care needs of Americans for another 100 years;
26 and

27 Whereas, APTA has worked hard to advance diversity, equity,
28 and inclusion efforts for the association and the physical therapy
29 profession; and

1 Whereas, Physical therapists and physical therapist assistants
2 have faced the challenge of the COVID-19 pandemic head on, treating
3 the most vulnerable, building on their proud history of work in the
4 polio pandemic, and playing an essential role in treating people
5 who are beginning to recover from the most severe effects of the
6 novel coronavirus, both during their time in the hospital and after
7 they leave, for as long as it takes to improve function; now,
8 therefore, be it

9 Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of
10 this legislative body honor the 100th anniversary of the American
11 Physical Therapy Association. We honor the APTA for its dedication
12 to improving the health of society over the past 100 years and
13 recognize that the organization and its members in Michigan are
14 essential partners to meeting the future health and wellness needs
15 of our country.