



PENNSYLVANIA PHYSICAL THERAPY ASSOCIATION LEGISLATIVE AMBASSADOR NETWORK

The Legislative Ambassador Network (LAN) was established in 1984 to provide each Pennsylvania state senator and representative with a personal contact from a constituent PPTA member, with a goal of having at least one PPTA member for each of the 253 members of the Pennsylvania General Assembly (50 senators and 203 members of the House of Representatives). Your service is a vital component of the PPTA grassroots lobbying network, given the past, present, and future legislation that has and will continue to impact our profession. Each PPTA District has a Legislative Chair, who is primarily responsible for identifying ambassadors and attempting to recruit Ambassadors for each of the legislators who represent their PPTA districts. An email network for Legislative Ambassadors has been established to expedite dissemination of information regarding legislative issues, and to solicit specific action by the ambassadors when needed. A complete listing of the LAN is maintained in the Chapter Office.

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Ambassadors are provided with updated information on current bills in the General Assembly and other issues impacting scope of practice, health care, and the physical therapy profession. Training is provided to ambassadors on an ongoing basis. Ambassadors may be asked to assist PPTA Legal Counsel in our lobbying efforts in Harrisburg during active legislative activity on bills affecting our practice. These efforts are initiated by PPTA leadership and coordinated through legal counsel and the LAN Coordinator. When an ambassador has contact with his/her legislator, a report of the contact is requested to be shared with PPTA legal counsel, the Chapter office, and the LAN coordinator. A reporting format for legislator responses to your contact is found on the PPTA website and a copy of the format will be attached to formal requests for action on legislation. This information is very helpful in our lobbying efforts in that it provides our legal counsel and the Legislative Advocacy Work Group with your legislator's stance on an issue--support, opposition, or no specific opinion--and will allow them to spend time with legislators who may need further information about an issue.

officers

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Legislative Ambassadors, since they are constituents who reside and/or practice in that legislator's district, serve a key role in successful passage of PPTA sponsored or supported legislation, or to oppose legislation that has been deemed to be detrimental either to the consumer or the profession. They also serve as professional resources on health care issues to their legislators and their staff.