

College of Medicine

Department of Orthopaedics 725 Prior Hall 376 West 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue Columbus, Ohio 43210

> 614-293-2165 Phone 614-293-4755 Fax www.ortho.osu.edu

The Honorable Representative Stephen Huffman Chair, Health Committee Ohio House of Representatives 77 South High Street Columbus, Ohio 43215

## Dear Representative Huffman:

We the undersigned members of The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center, Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, are writing you to express our sincere concern with proposed changes to the scope of practice for physical therapists as outlined in Ohio House Bill 131 currently in your Committee.

Dr. Christopher Kaeding MD, Medical Director for The Ohio State University Department of Athletics and Executive Director of OSU Sports Medicine, will be testifying to your Committee on our behalf but we wanted to make it perfectly clear our opposition to the proposed changes that we feel would put patients at risk.

Physical therapists simply do not have the educational background and training to determine a medical diagnosis in order to treat a person's physical impairments. Further, it is not prudent for physical therapists to be able to order diagnostic imaging interpreted by other health care professionals. Unnecessary tests and imaging prior to a medical diagnosis of a patient's impairment will only add additional costs to the health care system.

There is a key place for physical therapy in the healing process, but that place is after a proper medical diagnosis has been made, and after the patient and physician have determined that therapy will be a part of the patient's recovery plan.

Physicians and physical therapists at The Ohio State University have an excellent working relationship. This legislation could very well undermine this team approach to the delivery of quality health care to our patients which is our primary responsibility.

Sincerely,

Andrew H. Glassman, MD, MS

Professor and Chair

Department of Orthopaedics

Ian Alexander, MD
Professor of Clinical Orthopaedics

Michael Anthony, DPM Assistant Professor of Clinical Orthopaedics

Said Atway, DPM

Assistant Professor of Clinical Orthopaedics

Hisham Awan, MD

Associate Professor of Clinical Orthopaedics

Jonathan Barlow, MD, MS

Assistant Professor of Clinical Orthopaedics

Julie Bishop, MD

Professor of Clinical Orthopaedics

David Flanigan, MD

Associate Professor of Clinical Orthopaedics

Kanu Goyal, MD

Assistant Professor of Clinical Orthopaedics

Jeffrey Granger, MD

Assistant Professor of Clinical Orthopaedics

Adam Groth, MD

Associate Professor of Clinical Orthopaedics

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Sonu Jain, MD

Assistant Professor of Clinical Plastic Surgery

Ryan Harrison, MD

Assistant Professor of Clinical Orthopaedics

Grant Jones, MD

Professor of Clinical Orthopaedics

Chris Kaeding, MD

Professor of Clinical Orthopaedics

Associate Professor of Clinical Orthopaedics

and

Craig Lehrman, MD

Assistant Professor of Clinical Plastic Surgery

Mengnai Li, MD, PhD

Associate Professor of Clinical Orthopaedics

Thuan Ly, MD

Associate Professor of Clinical Orthopaedics

Joel Mayerson, MD

Professor of Clinical Orthopaedics

Timothy Miller, MD

Associate Professor of Clinical Orthopaedics

Erik Monson, DPM

Assistant Professor of Clinical Orthopaedics

Laura Phieffer, MD

Associate Professor of Clinical Orthopaedics

John Ryan, MD

Assistant Professor of Clinical Orthopaedics

Thomas Scharschmidt, MD, MBOE

Associate Professor of Clinical Orthopaedics

Anne Sullivan, MD

Assistant Professor of Clinical Orthopaedics

William K. Vasileff, MD

Assistant Professor of Clinical Orthopaedics

Elizabeth Yu, MD

Assistant Professor of Clinical Orthopaedics