

ANNUAL REPORT

NAME: Karen Lucero

POSITION OR COMMITTEE: Legislative Committee Chair

DATE: September 18, 2023

Please provide your accomplishments since the last APTA New Mexico Business Meeting:

- Made plans for legislative session with lobbyist support and committee. Communications with APTA Advocacy support and PT Compact representative for advice on Compact wording and conflicting issues with another NM licensure bill.
- Met for weekly phone call during the legislative session to apprise committee on progress on our goals. Also used Signal Chat for quick communications to make sure we had committee members available for speaking at legislative committee meetings where bills were being heard. Schedule changes are common, so timely communication was necessary.
- Testified in person as expert witness in House Health Committee for PT Compact bill
- Testified via Zoom at committees on Rural Health Care Fund Bill, Health Care Loan Repayment Bill, Suspension of Licensing Fees Bill, PTs to order MRIs bill, tax credit for practice in rural areas bill, expedited credentialing bill
- Messaged legislators in person and via phone call to request legislation be scheduled in committees
- Sent key messages to our membership through Suzie Callan for important contacts.
- Contacted Beth Jones, Program Director at UNM PT Program, for support and background on PTs ordering imaging
- See legislative report March 21, 2023 compiled by Marianna Anaya for details on progress of all the bills we followed.
- Met with APTA Government Affairs Department and Private Practice Section to discuss data available around Gross Receipts taxes, workforce data, PT Compact, and PT campaign to reduce opioid use with settlement money.
- Plan to meet with FSBPT and PT Compact on approaches to getting the PT Compact into New Mexico
- Plan to meet further with the UNM Division of Physical Therapy to advocate with the Board of Regents and the Legislature for expansion of the PT Program.