

2021 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 27

BY REPRESENTATIVE FRIEMAN

COMMENDATIONS: Commends the American Physical Therapy Association on the occasion of its one hundredth anniversary

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To commend the American Physical Therapy Association on the occasion of its
3 one hundredth anniversary.

4 WHEREAS, the American Physical Therapy Association, or APTA, is the leading
5 professional membership organization for the physical therapy profession; its mission is to
6 build a community that advances the profession of physical therapy in order to improve the
7 overall health of Americans; and

8 WHEREAS, physical therapy in the United States is rooted in the work of
9 reconstruction aides during World War I; these aides were strong women who played an
10 integral role in the recovery and rehabilitation of injured soldiers and whose incredible
11 efforts demonstrated their value as both medical professionals and war heroes; and

12 WHEREAS, many women throughout American history laid the foundation for the
13 modern practice of physical therapy: Mary McMillan served as a reconstruction aide and
14 was elected in 1921 as the first president of the American Women's Physical Therapeutic
15 Association; Emma Vogel initiated the first war emergency training course during World
16 War II at Walter Reed General Hospital in 1941, which consisted of six month of instruction
17 followed by another six months of supervised practice at military hospitals; and Lucy Blair
18 served as the staff coordinator for physical therapists on Dr. Jonah Salk's national response
19 team during the polio epidemic of the 1950s; and

20 WHEREAS, efforts to establish a two-year graduate education program for physical
21 therapists first arose in 1960 at Case Western Reserve University, and the first two

1 graduating classes of physical therapist assistants entered the workforce after graduating in
2 1969 from programs at Miami-Dade Community College in Florida and St. Mary's Junior
3 College in Minnesota; and

4 WHEREAS, the first physical therapy department at a historically black college or
5 university was established at Howard University in 1974; and

6 WHEREAS, the APTA launched the Commission on Accreditation in Physical
7 Therapy in 1978; the commission was nationally recognized by the U.S. Department of
8 Education and the Council for Higher Education Accreditation as the sole entity that grants
9 specialized accreditation status to entry-level education programs for physical therapists and
10 physical therapist assistants; and

11 WHEREAS, the first physical therapy doctoral degree candidates graduated from
12 Creighton University in 1996; today, all physical therapists are educated at the clinical
13 doctoral level; and

14 WHEREAS, the APTA launched the "Campaign for Future Generations" in 2020 to
15 advance diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts for the association and the physical therapy
16 profession; and

17 WHEREAS, the APTA has contributed significantly to the physical therapy
18 profession and, consequently, to the health of all Americans; it is most deserving of
19 recognition on its one hundredth anniversary.

20 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
21 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend the American Physical Therapy Association
22 on the occasion of its one hundredth anniversary; does hereby recognize the APTA for its
23 dedication to improving the health of society over the last one hundred years; does hereby
24 further recognize that the APTA and its members are essential partners to meeting the future
25 health and wellness needs of our country; and does hereby extend sincere hopes that the
26 APTA enjoy another one hundred years of progress and prosperity.

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
28 president of the American Physical Therapy Association.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HR 27 Original

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Commends the American Physical Therapy Assoc. on the occasion of its 100th anniversary.