



Promoting Safety and Competence

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The Honorable Asa Hutchinson
Chairman
National Governors Association
444 North Capitol Street
Suite 267
Washington, DC 20001

Dear Chairman Hutchison,

The Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy is a member organization comprising the jurisdictional boards that regulate physical therapy in the United States, Washington DC, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. As the membership organization for the state physical therapy regulatory boards, we believe timely appointments to vacant positions are important and it is imperative to consider diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging as Governors make appointments to state boards.

We know that many Governors are implementing diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging initiatives in their states. As part of those efforts, we encourage all Governors to review their guidelines for making appointments to regulatory boards so that state boards are more representative of the consumers they serve and protect, rather than the professionals that they are charged to regulate.

Appointments to state regulatory boards should consider a wide range of factors including age, class, ethnicity, gender, health, physical and mental ability, race, sexual orientation, religion, physical size, education level, and geographical location to ensure broad representation for the citizens of the state.

Additionally, filling vacant seats on state regulatory boards should continue to be a priority and be coupled with outreach to the community to ensure that members of the public, and the regulated professions, are aware of opportunities to serve. Appointments should be done in an open and transparent manner that encourages and enables individuals to serve in these vital roles.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nancy R. Kirsch, PT, DPT, PhD". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underlining the name.

Nancy R. Kirsch
President
Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy