

Date of Hearing: May 13, 2026

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Buffy Wicks, Chair

AB 2774 (Committee on Business and Professions) – As Amended April 22, 2026

Policy Committee: Business and Professions

Vote: 18 - 0

Urgency: No

State Mandated Local Program: No

Reimbursable: No

SUMMARY:

This bill extends the Physical Therapy Board of California's (PTBC) authority to enforce and administer the Physical Therapy Act and to appoint an executive officer until January 1, 2031. This bill also prohibits PTBC from considering a petition for reinstatement or modification or modification of a penalty if the applicant has been convicted of sexual or other offenses.

Specifically, this bill:

- 1) Extends PTBC's authority to enforce and administer the Physical Therapy Act and to appoint an executive officer until January 1, 2031.
- 2) Prohibits PTBC from considering a petition for reinstatement or modification of a penalty if the applicant is required to register as a sex offender, as specified, unless the applicant's requirement to register as a sex offender is based solely on a misdemeanor conviction.
- 3) Prohibits PTBC from considering a petition if the petitioner if the conduct underlying the petitioner's conviction involved sexual misconduct, as defined.
- 4) Prohibits PTBC from considering a petition if the petitioner is under sentence for any criminal offense, including any period during which the petitioner is on court-imposed probation or parole, or if there is an accusation or petition to revoke probation pending against the petitioner.

FISCAL EFFECT:

Annual costs of approximately \$12.5 million in fiscal year (FY) 2026-27 and ongoing to extend the operation of PTBC (Physical Therapy Fund).

COMMENTS:

- 1) **Purpose.** This bill is the sunset review bill for PTBC and is necessary to make changes to the Physical Therapy Act and PTBC operations to improve oversight of physical therapy (PT) professionals.
- 2) **Background.** Each year, the Assembly Committee on Business and Professions and the Senate Committee on Business, Professions, and Economic Development hold joint sunset review oversight hearings to review the licensing entities under the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA). DCA boards, bureaus, and other entities are responsible for protecting

consumers and the public and regulating the professionals they license. The sunset review process provides an opportunity for the legislature, DCA, licensing entities, and stakeholders to discuss the entities' performance and make recommendations for improvements.

PTBC is responsible for administering and enforcing the Physical Therapy Practice Act, which establishes the board and contains the regulatory framework for the practice of physical therapy. The purpose of PTBC is to protect consumers from incompetent, unprofessional, and fraudulent practice through regulation of practitioners. PTBC also establishes and clarifies state-specific process and practice standards through administrative rulemaking. PTBC's primary function is to run the licensing, education, and disciplinary programs for PTs and PT assistants (PTAs). PTBC also regulates unlicensed physical therapy aides and physical therapy students. At the end of FY 2024-25 PTBC reported a total of 40,278 active, in-state licensees, including 31,023 PTs and 9,255 PTAs. PTBC also reported 20 approved educational PT programs and 30 approved PTA programs in California.

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