

**SENATE RESOLUTION No. \_\_\_\_**

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DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

A SENATE RESOLUTION recognizing the 100th Anniversary of the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA).

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**MESSMER, FREEMAN**

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\_\_\_\_\_, read first time and referred to Committee on

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Introduced

First Regular Session 122nd General Assembly (2021)

## SENATE RESOLUTION \_\_\_\_\_

MADAM PRESIDENT:

I offer the following resolution and move its adoption:

1           A SENATE RESOLUTION recognizing the 100th  
2           Anniversary of the American Physical Therapy Association  
3           (APTA).

4           *Whereas, The American Physical Therapy Association was*  
5           *originally founded on January 15, 1921, as the American*  
6           *Women's Physical Therapeutic Association by reconstruction*  
7           *aides who worked to treat the many casualties of World War I*  
8           *and who were determined to continue building on the soon-to-*  
9           *be-dismantled reconstruction aide program at Walter Reed*  
10           *General Hospital;*

11           *Whereas, Mary McMillan, who was appointed as the first*  
12           *reconstruction aide and the organizer of the Walter Reed*  
13           *Physiotherapy Department, was elected to serve as the first*  
14           *president of the 274-member association;*

15           *Whereas, In 1927, through the growth of the physical*  
16           *therapist profession and the association's continued efforts in*  
17           *advocating for stronger standards and increased education,*  
18           *New York University became the first institution to launch a*  
19           *full, four-year program for physical therapists;*



1        *Whereas, Physical therapists supported the war effort*  
2 *again in 1941 with the initiation of the condensed War*  
3 *Emergency Training Course of World War II, soon followed by*  
4 *similar courses across the country, including the Special*  
5 *Women's Medical Service Corps Program for African*  
6 *Americans in 1943;*

7        *Whereas, In 1947, the organization officially became the*  
8 *American Physical Therapy Association and saw membership*  
9 *continue to grow amidst a nationwide poliomyelitis epidemic,*  
10 *and that growth continued through vaccination efforts and*  
11 *muscle testing headed by physical therapists across the*  
12 *country;*

13        *Whereas, The APTA is comprised of more than 100,000*  
14 *members including physical therapists, physical therapist*  
15 *assistants, and students of physical therapy who continue to*  
16 *seek to transform society by advocating for positive change,*  
17 *raising public awareness, advancing evidence-based practice,*  
18 *supporting the continued growth of members, and developing*  
19 *the next generation of members in the physical therapy*  
20 *profession;*

21        *Whereas, Physical therapists are considered vital health*  
22 *care team members who improve patients' quality of life*  
23 *through hands-on care, patient education, and prescribed*  
24 *movement that helps reduce the risk of chronic disease,*  
25 *enhance physical fitness, and prevent injury;*

26        *Whereas, Physical therapists and physical therapist*  
27 *assistants provide care to patients of all ages in any setting,*  
28 *including hospitals, private practices, clinics, schools, fitness*  
29 *facilities, military bases, nursing facilities, work settings, and*  
30 *even at home;*

31        *Whereas, Physical therapists and physical therapist*  
32 *assistants have continued to play an essential role during the*  
33 *COVID-19 pandemic by treating the most vulnerable*



1 *individuals as they begin to recover from the most severe effects*  
2 *of the coronavirus and for as long as it takes to get them back*  
3 *on their feet; and*

4 *Whereas, After a century supporting military members,*  
5 *those with polio or the coronavirus, and countless other*  
6 *afflictions, it is right to congratulate and recognize the APTA*  
7 *for its historic and continued efforts in improving the lives of*  
8 *individuals across the United States and the world: Therefore,*

9 *Be it resolved by the Senate of the*  
10 *General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

11 SECTION 1. That the Indiana Senate recognizes the  
12 American Physical Therapy Association for its dedication to  
13 improving the health of society over the past 100 years, and that  
14 physical therapists and physical therapist assistants are essential  
15 partners to meeting the future health and wellness needs of our  
16 country.

17 SECTION 2. The Secretary of the Senate is hereby directed  
18 to transmit copies of this Resolution to the members of the  
19 American Physical Therapy Association.

