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BUSINESS, LABOR & ECONOMIC AFFAIRS
EXHIBIT No. 2
DATE 4-13-07
BILL No. HB665

TO: Senate – Business, Labor, and Economic Affairs Committee

RE: HB 665 – Licensure of Athletic Trainers

From: Gary Lusin, PT, MS, ATC, CSCS
Licensed Physical Therapist
Certified Athletic Trainer

I am currently serving as the liaison between the Montana Chapter of the American Physical Therapy Association (PT's) and the Montana Athletic Trainers Association (AT's) regarding the AT licensure bill. I was also heavily involved in the 2005 session when the licensure bill was initially introduced.

I have had the pleasure of working with Representative Arntzen over the course of both sessions. She has provided good leadership and has demonstrated the endurance to work through the significant issues and changes that have developed with the language over the 2-½ years. Her commitment to public protection serves as a foundation for this legislation and I thank her for her efforts.

Over the course of the last 2-½ years much discussion has taken place about the language in the AT bill. The language in HB 665 represents a consensus between the physical therapists and athletic trainers and others concerned about public protection. This bill represents very well the current education and training of athletic trainers and defines the scope of practice well.

HB 665 will provide exactly what it is intended to do and that is providing good public protection for individuals seeking the services of athletic trainers. With this bill the public can be assured that when they see a licensed athletic trainer they are seeing someone who has received quality education and training specifically in athletic training. This bill makes it clear that providing athletic training services requires the education, training, and license as indicated in the language of HB 665.

I urge you to support this bill and help it pass through the 2007 session.

Gary Lusin, PT, MS, ATC, CSCS

4/13/07