ALEXANDRIA, VA, April 05, 2019 — On Tuesday, April 2, at its annual Federal Advocacy Forum held in downtown Washington, DC, the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA) awarded Senator John Thune (R-SD) with its prestigious Public Service Award.

Senator Thune was integral in the passage of the Sports Medicine Licensure Clarity Act. He introduced the Senate bill, which extends the liability insurance coverage of a state-licensed medical professional to another state when the professional provides medical services to an athlete, athletic team, or team staff member pursuant to a written agreement. Thune then worked with other senators to resolve concerns and remove any potential roadblocks to the legislation.

“This is an incredibly important milestone for our members who practice in athletics. Senator Thune’s work to put forth this legislation and his unwavering support of our profession made certain that physical therapists and physical therapist assistants would be able to maintain appropriate liability when crossing state lines while traveling and providing services for their respected sports teams, without fear of repercussion,” said APTA Executive Vice President of Public Affairs Katy Neas. “It was an honor to be able to present him this award and we thank the senator for all he has done.”

Established in 1991, the APTA Public Service Award recognizes individuals who have demonstrated distinctive support for the physical therapy profession at a national level. It is one of the organization’s highest honors.

The American Physical Therapy Association represents more than 100,000 physical therapists, physical therapist assistants, and students of physical therapy nationwide. Visit MoveForwardPT.com to learn more about the types of conditions physical therapists treat, and find a physical therapist in your area.

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