January 27, 2016

William A. Hatherill  
Chief Executive Officer  
Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy  
124 West Street South, Third Floor  
Alexandria, VA 22314  

Dear Mr. Hatherill:

The American Telemedicine Association is pleased to support the critical efforts of the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy to achieve the passage of the Physical Therapy Licensure Compact based on mutual recognition.

For telemedicine to achieve its maximum potential nationwide, physical therapists must be able to practice at the top of their scope across the barriers of geography. Passage of the Compact will empower physical therapists to participate in and benefit from a variety of innovative service delivery models featuring a multi-disciplinary team approach to provide and coordinate a patient’s care. Patients will reap the ultimate rewards of these efforts.

We believe that the structure and tenets of the Physical Therapy Licensure Compact provide the checks and balances to ensure enhanced access to the qualified mental health workforce in our country. At the same time, the Compact will provide a multi-state licensing framework for other health professionals using advanced technologies.

Our research shows that telemedicine provides value, access and quality of care. Telemedicine is a key component to alleviate the burdens of workforce shortages and inadequate health care access. The Compact is essential to the practice of physical therapy now and in the future. We highly support your efforts and vision.

Sincerely,

Jonathan D. Linkous  
Chief Executive Officer