



Physical Therapy Board of California

STATE AND CONSUMER SERVICES AGENCY – EDMUND G. BROWN JR., GOVERNOR

# Physical Therapy Board of California

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## 1 Briefing Paper

## AGENDA ITEM# 4C

2 Date: 1/04/12

3 Prepared for: PTBC Members

4 Prepared by: Jason Kaiser

5 SUBJECT: Photo Licenses

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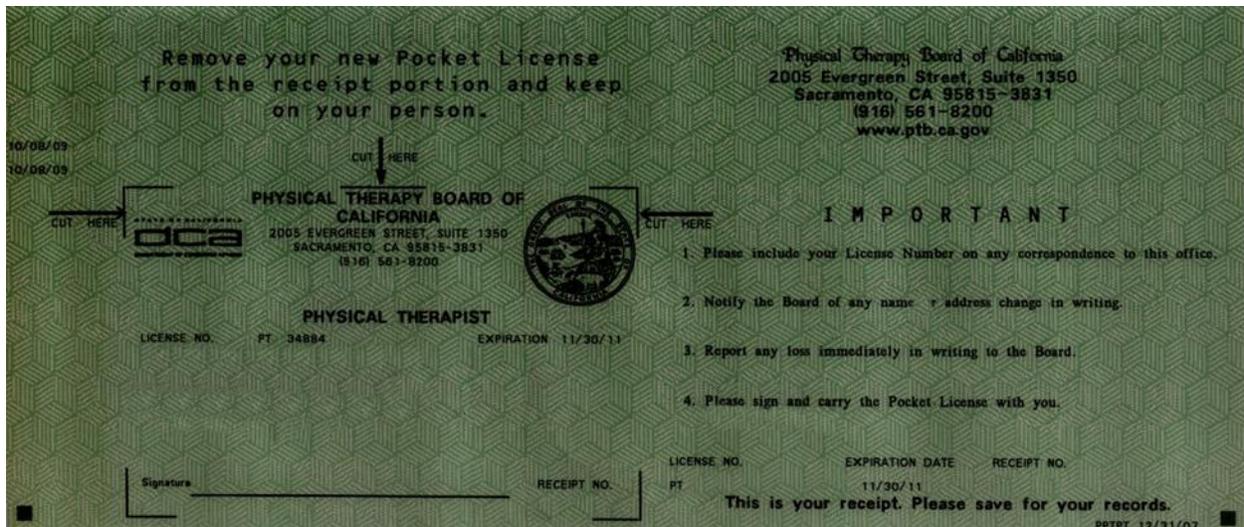
7 **Purpose:** Propose, for the Boards consideration, the licensees wallet certificate require a  
8 photograph of the licensee, for identification and security purposes. Purpose to the Board, the  
9 certificate is printed on a more durable plastic format that is less susceptible to duplication.

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11 **Background:** The licensee’s wallet certificate is the main source of identification of valid  
12 licensure for use with employers, patients and other entities. It has remained relatively  
13 unchanged for many years.

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15 **Analysis:** Currently the wallet certificate is 8½ X 4 inches, with a credit card sized cut out  
16 (3x2¼inches). This wallet certificate is printed on card stock that includes a number of security  
17 features.



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19 With advances in technology and printing, these security features have proven to be deficient in  
20 protecting against counter fitting, as demonstrated above.

21 As an alternative, the Board  
22 could utilize a more modern  
23 form of certification that  
24 includes a photograph of the  
25 licensee, similar to the more  
26 durable California Driver's  
27 License.

28 Having a photograph of the  
29 licensee on the wallet  
30 certificate would provide a  
31 number of advantages. This  
32 "Photo License" would serve  
33 as visual proof of  
34 identification, and could be  
35 utilized as a name tag, as  
36 well as creating a visual cue  
37 for the patient that the  
38 licensure is indeed valid.



39 The "Photo License" would be more secure, as it would require more than just a home computer  
40 and a printer to create a duplicate that could mislead the public.



If the implementation of a photograph based wallet license certification were to prove to cost prohibitive, the Board could utilize a format similar to the DMV that a number of state Agencies currently use. This style of card could have any number of security features built, including; hologram, embossed seal, magnetic information strip etc. These options would serve to protect the public from fraud and unlicensed activity my making the wallet

52 certificate more difficult to counterfeit.

53  
54 Currently, Applicants for licensure, upon examination, sit for a photograph to provide proof of  
55 identification. Theoretically this photograph could be used for their wallet certificate.

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57 Through the regulation process, the Board could also require existing licensees to sit for a  
58 current photograph as a condition of renewal.

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60 **Action Requested:** With the Board's direction, staff will move forward researching options, cost  
61 and implementation by requesting bids, example proofs and contract information.