

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

Action:	Do Pass and Be Placed on the Consent Calendar
Vote:	7 - 0 - 2
Yeas:	Bonamici, Bruun, Cannon, Gelser, Kotek, Maurer, Greenlick
Nays:	0
Exc.:	Flores, Richardson
Prepared By:	Sandy Thiele-Cirka, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	5/14

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Revises certain provisions relating to scope of practice for occupational therapy. Requires occupational therapists and occupational therapist assistants comply with continuing education requirements.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Continuing education requirements
- Importance of having applicants that have not practiced for more than three years go through a formal re-entry program or to retake the national exam
- Need for consistent definition of occupational therapy

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: Occupational therapy is a rehabilitation specialty that is provided by a licensed individual. Occupational therapy practitioners work with individuals experiencing health problems and varying disabilities, such as stroke, spinal cord injuries, cancer, congenital conditions, developmental problems and mental illness. Some of the areas the therapist may help the individual regain, develop, and build skills are self feeding, oral hygiene, upper body strengthening, dressing/bathing skills, visual/perceptual coordination, splinting and adaptive equipment

Currently, the Occupational Therapy Licensing Board administrative rule defines continuing education as the participation in courses, classes, workshops, and other means for the purpose of developing and updating professional skills to provide appropriate occupational therapy services. Licensees are required to complete 30 continuing education points to renew their licenses.