



## BOARD OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

2005 Evergreen Street, Suite 2050, Sacramento, CA 95815-3831

T: (916) 263-2264 F: (916) 263-2701

E-mail: [cbot@dca.ca.gov](mailto:cbot@dca.ca.gov) Web: [www.bot.ca.gov](http://www.bot.ca.gov)

### CALIFORNIA BOARD OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY TELECONFERENCE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

May 6, 2008

#### **Board Members Present**

Mary Evert, President  
Nancy Michel  
Bobbi Jean Tanberg  
Christine Wietlisbach

#### **Board Members Absent**

Patti Horsley

#### **Staff Present**

Heather Martin, Executive Officer  
Norine Marks, Legal Counsel  
Jeff Hanson, Analyst

#### **A. Call to Order, Roll Call, Establishment of a Quorum**

President Mary Evert called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m. establishing contact with all teleconference sites. Secretary Bobbi Jean Tanberg called the roll. A quorum of the Board was present.

#### **B. Introductions**

Board members and staff introduced themselves. Chuck Strauch of the Occupational Therapy Association of California was in attendance for items C through F.

#### **C. Discussion and consideration of educational requirements for occupational therapists and occupational therapy assistants (Business and Professions Code [BPC] Section 2570.6)**

When the Board was established in statute in 2000, the educational requirements that were enacted mirrored the educational standard that had been set forth by the American Occupational Therapy Associations' (OTA) Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) in 1994. Unfortunately, the specificity of the Section failed to consider or take into account educational eligibility standards that had been established by the profession prior to 1994 and recognize other accrediting/approving entities prior to ACOTE's inception. Since the spirit and intent of the licensing requirement was never meant to preclude qualified practitioners from becoming licensed in California a need exists to modify the statute so that it recognizes degree programs that met the profession's educational standards prior to 1994.

- ◆ Nancy Michel moved to amend the proposed language in subsections (b)(1) and (b)(2) as presented and to read in pertinent areas "accredited or approved".
- ◆ The motion was seconded by Christine Wietlisbach.
- ◆ The Board also granted the Executive Officer and Legal Counsel authority to discuss any issues with the American Occupational Therapy Association and ACOTE and to work out any grammatical issues in subsection (c)(1).

Roll call vote

Mary Evert: Aye  
Nancy Michel: Aye  
Bobbi Jean Tanberg: Aye  
Christine Wietlisbach: Aye

**D. Discussion and consideration of examination requirements for occupational therapists and occupational therapy assistants (BCP Section 2570.7).**

When the Board was initially established in statute, BCP Section 2570.7 stated applicants shall successfully complete the entry level certification for occupational therapists or occupational therapy assistants administered by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT) or by another nationally recognized credentialing body. Similar to the needed changes in BCP Section 2570.6, the Board recognizes a need to clarify the other nationally recognized credentialing bodies that were predecessors to NBCOT.

Therefore, the Board discussed the need to amend the section to read in pertinent part, “an applicant shall complete the entry level certification examination for occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant administered by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy, the American Occupational Therapy Certification Board or the American Occupational Therapy Association”.

- ◆ **Christine Wietlisbach moved to adopt the proposed statutory language as presented.**
- ◆ **Bobbi Jean Tanberg seconded the motion.**

Roll call vote

Mary Evert: Aye  
Nancy Michel: Aye  
Bobbi Jean Tanberg: Aye  
Christine Wietlisbach: Aye

**E. Discussion and consideration of educational requirements for occupational therapists and occupational therapy assistants Trained Outside of the United States (BPC Section 2570.15).**

The Board reviewed proposed regulatory language to further define and clarify “educational and supervised fieldwork requirements substantially equal to those contained in Section 2570.6” for foreign trained practitioners as cited in BPC Section 2570.15. The proposed regulations would establish that “substantially equal” in BCP Section 2570.15 means that the applicant has successfully completed the academic requirements of an education program, including supervised fieldwork for occupational therapists or occupational therapy assistants, that is approved by the Board and approved by the foreign credentialing review process of NBCOT, the American Occupational Therapy Certification Board or AOTA.

- ◆ **Christine Wietlisbach moved to adopt the proposed regulatory language as presented.**
- ◆ **Bobbi Jean Tanberg seconded the motion.**

Roll call vote

Mary Evert: Aye  
Nancy Michel: Aye  
Bobbi Jean Tanberg: Aye  
Christine Wietlisbach: Aye

**F. Public comment for items not on the agenda.**

There was no public comment.

**G. CLOSED SESSION pursuant to Government Code Section 11126(c)(3) to deliberate on disciplinary Decisions.**

Immediately after establishment of a quorum and introductions the Board went into closed session to discuss disciplinary decisions. Agenda items C, D, E, F, and H proceeded.

**H. Adjournment.**

There was a consensus that the next Board meeting on July 17, 2008, would also be conducted by teleconference from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. The meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.