

## **AGENDA ITEM 4**

**PUBLIC COMMENT FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA.**

## **AGENDA ITEM 5**

### **DISCUSSION AND DEVELOPMENT OF POSSIBLE RECOMMENDATIONS TO BOARD ON THE FOLLOWING *NEWLY* INTRODUCED BILLS:**

- a) AB 2725, Teacher credentialing: occupational and physical therapists.
- b) AB 2753, Rehabilitative and habilitative services: durable medical equipment and services.
- c) AB 3137, Department of Consumer Affairs.
- d) AB 3169, Health facilities.
- e) SB 1290, Health care coverage: essential health benefits.
- f) SB 1423, Medi-Cal: critical access hospitals.
- g) SB 1432, Health facilities.

**PLEASE NOTE: ALL BILLS CAN BE FOUND AT:  
[HTTPS://LEGINFO.LEGISLATURE.CA.GOV](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov)**

## **AGENDA ITEM 6**

### **DISCUSSION AND DEVELOPMENT OF POSSIBLE RECOMMENDATIONS TO BOARD ON THE FOLLOWING *TWO-YEAR* BILLS:**

- a) AB 47, Pelvic floor physical therapy coverage, and Board's position letter.
- b) AB 381, Teacher credentialing: services credential with a specialization in health: occupational and physical therapists, and Board's position letter.
- c) AB 796, Athletic trainers, the Board's position letter and Medical Board of California's position letter.
- d) AB 1028, Reporting of crimes: mandated reporters.
- e) AB 1612, Clinics: licensure.
- f) SB 802, Licensing board: disqualification form licensure: criminal conviction.

**PLEASE NOTE: ALL BILLS CAN BE FOUND AT:**  
**[HTTPS://LEGINFO.LEGISLATURE.CA.GOV](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov)**



January 26, 2023

The Honorable Mia Bonta  
Chair of the Health Committee  
Assembly Health Committee  
1020 N Steet, Room 390  
Sacramento, California 95814

RE: AB 47 (Boerner) – **Position: SUPPORT, If Amended**

Dear Assembly Member Bonta:

The California Board of Occupational Therapy (Board) carefully reviewed Assembly Bill 47, which would require that a health care service plan contract or health insurance policy provide coverage for pelvic floor physical therapy after pregnancy. I am writing to express the Board's position of support, *if amended* to include occupational therapy practitioners as providers of pelvic floor therapy.

Pelvic health has a direct relationship to numerous areas that occupational therapists address within the Practice Framework such as activities of daily living, social participation, and pelvic floor challenges that occur in the female, male and pediatric population.

The Board asks for your consideration in adding occupational therapy practitioners with expertise in pelvic floor therapy as approved providers of pelvic floor therapy.

Please contact me at 916-248-2178 if you need additional information or have any questions regarding the Board's position on SB 805.

Sincerely,

Heather Martin, Executive Officer  
CA Board of Occupational Therapy

cc: Assembly Member Tasha Boerner, Author  
Lila Mirrashidi, Deputy Secretary of Business and Consumer Relations,  
Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency  
Myles White, Deputy Secretary of Legislation  
Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency  
Jennifer Simoes, Deputy Director  
Division of Legislative Affairs, Department of Consumer Affairs  
Members, CA Board of Occupational Therapy



January 26, 2023

The Honorable Buffy Wicks  
Chair, Assembly Appropriations Committee  
1021 O Street, Suite 8220  
Sacramento, California 95814

**RE: Assembly Bill 381 (Rubio) Teacher credentialing: services credential with a specialization in health: occupational and physical therapists – SUPPORT**

Dear Chairperson Wicks:

The California Board of Occupational Therapy (Board) carefully reviewed and supports Assembly Bill (AB) 381, as amended on May 1, 2023, which would require the commission, until January 1, 2029, to issue a services credential with a specialization in health to an appropriately licensed occupational therapist or physical therapist who meets certain requirements and would authorize, *but would not require*, an occupational therapist or a physical therapist to apply for a services credential with a specialization in health, as provided.

AB 381 is sponsored by the Occupational Therapy Association of California (OTAC) and the California Physical Therapy Association (CPTA). The organizations indicate that Occupational Therapists (OTs) and Physical Therapists (PTs) provide educational services to schools but are the only professionals mandated by Individuals with Disabilities Act who are not provided a credentialing opportunity.

OTs and PTs complete a rigorous education and training program that leads to a master's and/or a doctoral degree. Therapists use their education and training to provide existing services to students without a credential and there is no apparent educational need or benefit to students to warrant the additional requirement of earning a credential. The stated rationale from advocates is that earning this credential would grant OTs and PTs a greater voice on issues involving Occupational and Physical Therapy services and would open the door for therapists to possibly earn a higher salary.

Please contact me at 916-248-2178 if you need additional information or have any questions regarding the Board's position on AB 381.

Sincerely,

Heather Martin, Executive Officer  
CA Board of Occupational Therapy

cc: Assembly Member Blanca Rubio, Author  
Lila Mirrashidi, Deputy Secretary of Business and Consumer Relations  
Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency  
Myles White, Deputy Secretary of Legislation  
Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency  
Jennifer Simoes, Deputy Director  
Division of Legislative Affairs, Department of Consumer Affairs



April 21, 2023

The Honorable Marc Berman  
Chair, Business & Professions Committee  
California State Assembly  
Legislative Office Building, Room 379  
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 796 (Weber) – **Position: SUPPORT, If Amended**

Dear Assembly Member Berman:

The California Board of Occupational Therapy (Board) carefully reviewed Assembly Bill 796, which would establish the Athletic Trainer Licensing Committee within the California Board of Occupational Therapy, to license athletic trainers, regulate the practice of athletic training, and exercise all disciplinary, administrative, and regulatory functions, as specified. The Board has a couple concerns with the language as written.

As proposed, Business and Professions Code (BPC) section 2697.1(b), specifies “*athletic training ... includes services appropriate for ... injuries and illnesses sustained by an athlete*” and BPC Section 2697.1(c) details what is included in the practice of athletic training.

The Board will support AB 796 if amendments to the bill include:

- (1) Expanding the definition of *athlete* set forth in BPC section 2697.1 to recognize that athletic trainers may treat or care for those in the military and performing arts. Treatment of soldiers and performing artists’ physical strength, flexibility, range of motion, etc. to decrease or minimize risk of injury, is necessary for their continued participation and optimal performance;
- (2) Expanding the definition of *athlete* set forth in BPC section 2697.1 to recognize that athletic trainers are used in corporations to promote and maintain the well-being of employees. Athletic trainers may recommend injury prevention and management plans; and
- (3) Providing more specificity in the definition of ‘*athletic training*’ as set forth in section 2697.1(c).

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AB 796 Position letter  
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The Board requests clarity on '*athletic training*' as defined in BPC section 26971(c). Specifically, an athletic trainer's ability to prevent, recognize, assess, manage, and treat *illnesses*, and to identify disabilities and provide appropriate care.

Separate from the Board's position on the bill, with the Athletic Training Licensing Committee proposed to be within the Board, the Board respectfully requests consideration of including a licensed occupational therapist as one of the Committee's public members, as specified in BPC section 2697.4(b)(2).

Please contact me at 916-248-2178 if you need additional information or have any questions regarding the Board's position on AB 796.

Sincerely,

Heather Martin, Executive Officer  
CA Board of Occupational Therapy

cc: Assembly Member Akilah Weber, MD, Author  
Lila Mirrashidi, Deputy Secretary of Business and Consumer Relations,  
Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency  
Amy Wilson, Deputy Secretary of Legislation,  
Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency  
Myles White, Assistant Secretary of Legislation,  
Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency  
Jennifer Simoes, Deputy Director,  
Division of Legislative Affairs, Department of Consumer Affairs  
Nick Harvey, Chair, Governmental Affairs Committee,  
California Athletic Trainers Association  
Members, CA Board of Occupational Therapy