

Department of Planning and Budget 2004 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number House Bill 309

House of Origin	<input type="checkbox"/> Introduced	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/> Engrossed
Second House	<input type="checkbox"/> In Committee	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enrolled

2. Patron Harry R. Purkey

3. Committee Passed Both Houses

4. Title Occupational therapy

5. Summary/Purpose: This bill requires persons who practice or advertise as occupational therapy assistants or use the designation "O.T.A." or any variation thereof to obtain initial certification from a credentialing organization approved in regulation by the Board of Medicine. This provision also makes it unlawful to practice occupational therapy without licensure from the Board. Further, the Board is given clear authority to require licensure of occupational therapists and certification of occupational therapy assistants, the occupational therapist members of the Advisory Board are required to be licensed, and the Advisory Board's powers are revised to include recommendations to the Board of credentialing organizations to be approved for initial certification of occupational therapy assistants. Current law authorizes the practice of occupational therapy assistants without certification as long as the person is supervised by an occupational therapist in compliance with Board requirements and restricts the use of titles such as "occupational therapist" to individuals who hold licensure from the Board. Applicants for licensure will continue to use titles such as "occupational therapist, license applicant." Individuals who do not claim to be occupational therapy assistants may continue to assist in the provision of occupational therapy services under the supervision of an occupational therapist in accordance with Board requirements. Two enactment clauses require the Board to promulgate emergency regulations and condition initial compliance with the licensure and certification requirements of this provision on the timelines, etc. set forth in the Board's regulations.

6. Minimal Fiscal Impact

7. Budget amendment necessary: No

8. Fiscal implications: The Board of Medicine would absorb the cost (estimated at \$2,500) of the rulemaking required to determine the credentials that someone must have to use the title "occupational therapy assistant" or "OTA." However since the bill does not require the regulation of assistants no significant fiscal impact is anticipated.

9. Specific agency or political subdivisions affected:
Department of Health Professions

10. Technical amendment necessary: No

11. Other comments: None

Date: 02/25/04 / kwm

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cc: Secretary of Health and Human Resources