

**CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 91(STA) am**  
**IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA**  
**TWENTIETH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION**

**BY THE SENATE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

**Amended: 4/22/97**

**Offered: 4/16/97**

**Sponsor(s): SENATE RULES COMMITTEE BY REQUEST OF THE LEGISLATIVE BUDGET AND  
AUDIT COMMITTEE**

**A BILL**

**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1 "An Act relating to the regulation of physical therapists, physical therapy  
2 assistants, occupational therapists, and occupational therapy assistants; extending the  
3 termination date of the State Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy Board;  
4 and providing for an effective date."

5 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

6 \* **Section 1.** AS 08.03.010(c)(16) is amended to read:

7 (16) State Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy Board  
8 (AS 08.84.010) -- June 30, 2001 [1997];

9 \* **Sec. 2.** AS 08.84.030(b)(1) is amended to read:

10 (b) To be eligible for licensure by the board as an occupational therapist or  
11 occupational therapy assistant, an applicant, unless a graduate of a foreign school of  
12 occupational therapy located outside the United States, shall

13 (1) have successfully completed a curriculum of occupational therapy  
14 approved by the Committee of Allied Health Education and Accreditation of the

American Medical Association or [, AND] the American Occupational Therapy Association [APPROPRIATE TO THE LICENSE BEING SOUGHT];

(2) submit proof of successful completion and supervised field work approved by the board

(A) for an occupational therapist, a minimum of six months of supervised field work;

(B) for an occupational therapy assistant, a minimum of two months of supervised field work;

(3) pass, to the satisfaction of the board, an examination prepared by a national testing service approved by the board or an examination recognized by the American Occupational Therapy Association to determine the applicant's fitness for practice as an occupational therapist or an occupational therapy assistant, or be entitled to licensure without examination under AS 08.84.060; and

(4) meet qualifications for licensure established in regulations adopted by the board under AS 08.84.010(b).

\* **Sec. 3.** AS 08.84.032 is amended to read:

**Sec. 08.84.032. Foreign-trained applicants.** (a) To be eligible for licensure by the board as a physical therapist or physical therapy assistant, an applicant who is a graduate of a school of physical therapy that is located outside of the United States shall

(1) have completed, to the satisfaction of the board, a resident course of study and professional instruction equivalent to that provided by a school approved by the Council on Medical Education and Hospitals of the American Medical Association or the American Physical Therapy Association, and furnish documentary evidence of compliance with this paragraph, translated, if necessary, into the English language by a person verifying the accuracy of the translations;

(2) have completed, to the satisfaction of the board, an internship under the continuous direction and immediate supervision of a physical therapist in an institution that ordinarily provides physical therapy and is approved by the board, for that period of time specified by the board, and furnish documentary evidence of compliance with this paragraph;

(3) pass an examination recognized by the board that measures the competence of the applicant in the English language [ORAL EXAMINATION ADMINISTERED BY A MEMBER OF THE BOARD];

(4) have met applicable requirements under the federal Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101 et seq.), unless a United States citizen;

(5) pass the examination administered by the board under AS 08.84.030(a)(2); and

(6) pay the fee required under AS 08.84.050.

(b) To be eligible for licensure by the board as an occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant, an applicant who is a graduate of a school of occupational therapy that is located outside of the United States shall

(1) have completed, to the satisfaction of the board, a resident course of study and professional instruction equivalent to that provided by a curriculum approved by the Committee of Allied Health Education and Accreditation of the American Medical Association or [AND] the American Occupational Therapy Association, and have furnished documentary evidence of compliance with this paragraph, translated, if necessary, into the English language by a person verifying the accuracy of the translations;

(2) have completed, to the satisfaction of the board, supervised field work equivalent to that required under AS 08.84.030(b);

(3) pass an examination recognized by the board that measures the competence of the applicant in the English language;

(4) have met applicable requirements under 8 U.S.C. 1101 - 1503 (Immigration and Nationality Act) unless a United States citizen;

(5) [(4)] pass an examination administered or approved by the board under AS 08.84.030; and

(6) [(5)] pay the fee required under AS 08.84.050.

\* **Sec. 4.** AS 08.84.065(a) is amended to read:

(a) The board may issue a nonrenewable temporary permit to an applicant for licensure by acceptance of credentials or by examination who

(1) meets the requirements of

1 (A) AS 08.84.030(a)(1) or (b)(1); or  
 2 (B) AS 08.84.032(a)(2) and (4) or (b)(2) and (4) [(b)(2) AND  
 3 (3)]; and

4 (2) pays the required fee.

5 \* **Sec. 5.** AS 08.84.150(b) is amended to read:

6 (b) A person may not provide services that the person describes as  
 7 occupational therapy without being licensed under this chapter unless the person is

8 (1) a student in an accredited occupational therapy program or in a  
 9 supervised field work program;

10 (2) a graduate of a foreign school of occupational therapy fulfilling the  
 11 internship requirement of AS 08.84.032, and then only unless under the continuous  
 12 direction and immediate supervision of an occupational therapist;

13 (3) an occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant employed  
 14 by the United States Government while in the discharge of official duties;

15 (4) granted a limited permit under AS 08.84.075;

16 (5) licensed under this title and uses occupational therapy skills in the  
 17 practice of the profession for which the license is issued; or

18 (6) employed as a teacher or teacher's aide by an educational institution  
 19 and is required to use occupational therapy skills during the course of employment, if

20 (A) the occupational therapy skills are used under a program  
 21 implemented by the employer and developed by a licensed occupational  
 22 therapist;

23 (B) the employer maintains direct supervision of the person's  
 24 use of occupational therapy skills; and

25 (C) the person does not represent to

26 (i) be an occupational therapist or occupational therapy  
 27 assistant; and

28 (ii) practice occupational therapy.

29 \* **Sec. 6.** This Act takes effect July 1, 1997.