



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

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Senate Bill 172 Occupational Therapy Licensure Compact

"An Act relating to occupational therapist licensure; relating to occupational therapy assistant licensure; and relating to an occupational therapist licensure compact."

Sectional Summary

This is a summary only. Note that this summary should not be considered an authoritative interpretation of the bill and the bill itself is the best statement of its contents.

Section 1: Amends AS 08.84.010(b) by adding implementation of the Occupational Therapy Licensure Compact to the duties of the State Physical Therapy and State Occupational Therapy Board.

Section 2: Amends AS 08.84.150(b) by adding compact privilege as a possible prerequisite for providing occupational therapy.

Section 3: Amends AS 08.84 by adding a new article:

Article 3A. Occupational Therapy Licensure Compact.

Section 1: "Purpose" Outlines purposes of Compact.

Section 2: "Definitions" Defines terms referenced throughout the Compact and limits the scope of the definitions to the Compact. Examples of defined terms include "Active Duty Military," "Compact Privilege," "Member State," and "Occupational Therapy."

Section 3: "State Participation in the Compact" Establishes requirements for States participating in the Compact.

Section 4: "Compact Privilege" Establishes requirements for Licensees using compact privileges.

Section 5: "Obtaining a New Home State License by Virtue of Compact Privilege" Outlines procedure for obtaining a new home state license if an Occupational Therapists' primary state of residence changes.

Section 6: "Active Duty Military Personnel or Their Spouses" Provides flexibility for Active Duty Military personnel or their spouses to designate a home state and retain that state license for the duration of active duty.

Section 7: “Adverse Actions” Protects the unique right of a licensee’s home state to take adverse action against a home state license. Protects the right of remote states to take adverse action against a licensee’s compact privilege. Establishes a mechanism for joint investigations and subpoenas between member states and requires disclosure of adverse actions to the shared data system.

Section 8: “Establishment of the Occupational Therapy Compact Commission” Establishes the Occupational Therapy Compact Commission. Outlines commission membership, for establishment, executive committee, financing, and requirement for public meetings.

Section 9: “Data System” Describes Member State obligations for participation in the shared data system.

Section 10: “Rulemaking” Sets terms for rulemaking; rules established by the Commission carry the force of law in member states.

Section 11: “Oversight, Dispute Resolution, and Enforcement” Establishes process for ensuring Member State compliance with the Compact.

Section 12: “Date of Implementation of the Interstate Commission for Occupational Therapy Practice and Associated Rules, Withdrawal, and Amendment” Describes effective date of Compact, sets terms for joining, withdrawing from, and amending the Compact.

Section 13: “Construction and Severability” Declares that the Compact shall be liberally construed to effectuate its purposes, and notes that the Compact’s provisions are severable.

Section 14: “Binding Effect of Compact and Other Laws” The Compact is binding upon member states and supersedes conflict with member state laws to the extent of the conflict.