



2023 Occupational Therapy Legislative Day

NMOTA Supported Bills

HB41

Sponsors: Thomson (D24)
Title: **DOH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES MATCHING FUNDS**
Summary: Appropriates \$7,646,149 (GF) to the Department of Health for use in FY2024 to match federal funds for the Developmental Disabilities Supports Division to increase provider reimbursement.
01/24/2023 - House Appropriations and Finance Committee

HB47

Sponsors: Matthews (D27)
Title: **RURAL HEALTH CARE PROJECT REVOLVING FUND**
Summary: Creates the Rural Health Care Project Revolving Fund within the NM Finance Authority (NMFA) to make loans to rural health care providers for rural health care projects. Appropriates \$7.5 million (GF, nonreverting) to the fund for use in FY2024 and subsequent years.
01/18/2023 - House Health and Human Services Committee

SB36

Sponsors: Ortiz y Pino (D12)
Title: **HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS UNDER AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT**
Summary: Expands Gross Receipts Tax exemption at Section 7-9-41.6 to include receipts of health care providers, other than hospitals licensed by DOH, from payments by the U.S. Dept of Health and Human Services pursuant to the federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021.
01/17/2023 - Senate Tax, Business and Transportation Committee

SB111

Sponsors: Soules (D37)
Title: **TEMPORARILY SUSPEND LICENSE FEES FOR CERTAIN PROFESSIONS**
Summary: Suspends provisional and initial license fees for persons entering certain professions and occupations in New Mexico from July 1, 2023 to July 1, 2026; appropriates \$1 million (GF) to the Regulation and Licensing Department for use in FYs 2024 through 2027 to offset lost revenue from licensing fees. The suspension does not include businesses or managers or supervisors of businesses. Individuals not required to pay the initial fee for first-time licensure must still meet all other requirements and pay all required fees.
01/19/2023 - Senate Health and Public Affairs Committee



HB 392: Occupational Therapy Interstate Compact

Sponsors: Marian Matthews, Gail Armstrong, Tara Jaramillo, Elizabeth "Liz" Thomson

Summary: Authorizes OTs and OTAs to provide skilled occupational therapy evaluation and treatment in person or via telehealth across state lines.

https://www.aota.org/-/media/corporate/files/advocacy/ot_compact_infographic_revised.pdf

Talking Points:

- Improves access to occupational therapy services
- Improves continuity of care when clients travel or relocate
- Preserves and strengthens state licensure systems
- Enhances public safety
- Increases employment opportunities for OTs and OTAs by authorizing practice in member states (including via telehealth)
- Encourages cooperation among compact member states in regulating the practice of occupational therapy
- Enhances mobility for OT practitioners
- Supports relocating military spouses

Additional Information for Legislators:

- As with the existing licensure compacts
 - The OT Compact has no impact on a state's scope of practice – this is not a takeover of state regulatory authority
 - The OT Compact leaves state specific licensure requirements in place – this is not a takeover of state licensing systems.
- The OT Compact enhances states' authority to protect the public and regulate the OT profession.
- OTs and OTAs are licensed in all 50 states, with consistency in licensure requirements.
- The OT Compact will have no fiscal implications for states.