



Alaska Board of Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy - Legislative Committee - Friday, June 9, 2023 Minutes

Alaska Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing
Jun 9, 2023 at 9:00 AM AKDT
@ Juneau - Zoom

I. Call to Order/Roll Call

Legislative Committee Members:

1. Tina McLean, PT, DPT, ATL, CMTPT/GTS - Board Member
2. Bryan Murphy, OTD, OTR/L, CLWT - Board Member
3. Rebecca Dean, M.A., FACMPE - Board member

 [Agenda PHY Legislative Committee Mtg June 9, 2023 DRAFT.pdf](#)

Alaska State Board of Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy Legislative Committee meeting called to order at 9:02 am on Friday, June 9, 2023. Roll Call performed by Tina McLean:

Board Members:

- Bryan Murphy – Present
- Rebecca Dean – Present
- Tina McLean – Present

Staff:

- Sylvan Robb, Division Director
- Sheri Ryan, Licensing Examiner

II. Public Comment

No public members connected to the meeting – no public comment given.

III. SB74/HB137 - PT Compact Licensure

- [SB74](#) - PHYSICAL THERAPY LICENSURE COMPACT
- [HB137](#) - PHYSICAL THERAPY LICENSURE COMPACT

Letters of Support from Board of Nursing and Board of Pharmacy provided as samples.

 [CBPL Legislative Guidance BOARD 2022.pdf](#)

 [HB149 AK Board of Nursing LOS.pdf](#)

 [HB112- Profession of Pharmacy- Letter of Support from AK Board of Pharmacy.pdf](#)

 [SB74 and HB137 Letter of Support.docx](#)

SB74/HB137 – Letters of Support

SB74=Passed on Senate side | HB137=Finance – Bill can still be amended in House Finance. If it gets amended; it would have to go back to Senate for concurrence. If minor changes, could be taken up on Senate floor. If more substantial changes, might dig into it more. If the House takes up the Senate version, does not have to go back to Senate for approval. Only one letter of support necessary at this time as SB74 has passed on senate side. Address letter to House Finance Committee Chairs w/individual copies addressed to each committee member.

- Representative Bryce Edgmon – Co-Chair
- Representative Neal Foster – Co-Chair
- Representative DeLena Johnson – Co-Chair
- Representative Julie Coulombe
- Representative Mike Cronk
- Representative Will Stapp
- Representative Frank Tomaszewski
- Representative Alyse Galvin
- Representative Sara Hannan
- Representative Andy Josephson
- Representative Dan Ortiz

Bills are not identical any longer between Senate + House. Senate introduced committee substitute bill <https://www.akleg.gov/PDF/33/Bills/SB0074B.PDF> that does not require fingerprinting of **currently** licensed Alaska physical therapists/PTAs to gain compact licensure. This affects renewals of Alaska license and anyone applying for a PT compact licensure in another state. This would not exempt initial licensure applicants. Sec. 4 is that change.

Sec. 4. AS 08.84 is amended by adding a new section to read:

Sec. 08.84.034 Exemption from criminal justice information and criminal history record check. A physical therapist, physical therapist assistant, occupational therapist, or occupational therapy assistant holding a valid license under this chapter on July 1, 2024,

is exempt from the requirements of AS 08.84.030(a)(4) and 08.84.032(a)(8), but is otherwise subject to this chapter.

For reference, here's the changes being made to Sec. 08.84.030 Qualification for licensing section

**11 (4) have been fingerprinted and have provided the fees required
12 by the Department of Public Safety under AS 12.62.160 for criminal justice
13 information and a national criminal history record check; the fingerprints and
14 fees shall be forwarded to the Department of Public Safety to obtain a report of
15 criminal justice information under AS 12.62 and a national criminal history
16 record check under AS 12.62.400.**

And the changes being made to 08.84.032 Foreign-educated applicant section
**(8) have been fingerprinted and have provided the fees required
11 by the Department of Public Safety under AS 12.62.160 for criminal justice
12 information and a national criminal history record check; the fingerprints and
13 fees shall be forwarded to the Department of Public Safety to obtain a report of
14 criminal justice information under AS 12.62 and a national criminal history
15 record check under AS 12.62.400.**

Add language in letter of support of fingerprinting committee substitute language added on Senate side? YES – language added.

Concern regarding current effective date of implementation in the bill of July 1, 2024. Could amend date in House Finance for effective date to (six months) January 1, 2025 or (one year) July 1, 2025 to allow for more time as bill did not pass in first part of 33rd legislature. (Most likely wouldn't get kicked back to committees for this small of a change). This would allow for additional time needed for Board to enact regulations and Division necessary changes to implement. Add language to Letter of Support expressing this concern/requesting the effective date change? YES – language for one year extension added.

SB74/HB137 = exclusive to physical therapy **compact** licensure but would have impact on OT/OTA re: overall Alaska licensure requirements as fingerprint requirement would be extended to all initial Alaska license applicant types including OTs/OTAs.

Is Occupational Therapy going to introduce a bill to include compact licensure? Separate bill = YES Amendment? If separate bill introduced and not passed, it dies at end of 2024

session and has to be re-introduced in 2025. Model language available for OT. Harder to pass PT bill if amended at last minute to include OT.

IV. SB83/HB85 - Professional Licensing; Temp Permits

- [SB83](#) - PROFESSIONAL LICENSING; TEMP PERMITS
- [HB85](#) - PROFESSIONAL LICENSING; TEMP PERMITS

Letter of Support from Board of Pharmacy provided as sample.

 [SB83 Letter of Support.docx](#)

 [HB85 PTOT letter of support.docx](#)

 [HB85 PTOT letter of support RSD Edits 04112023.docx](#)

 [HB85- Professional Licensing-Temp Permits- Letter of Support from AK Board of Pharmacy.pdf](#)

SB83/HB85 – Letters of Support

HB85 - HB85 amended to pull state into compliance for Military spouses/members. Revisions for previous HB85 Draft letter submitted accepted. Small additional changes made (reorder bullets). Address letter to House Finance Committee Chairs w/individual copies addressed to each committee member.

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- Representative Alyse Galvin
- Representative Sara Hannan
- Representative Andy Josephson
- Representative Dan Ortiz

SB83 – mirror HB85 letter drafted w/changes approved above. Address letter Senate Finance Committee Chairs w/individual copies addressed to each committee member.

- Senator Bert Stedman – Co-Chair
- Senator Lyman Hoffman – Co-Chair
- Senator Donald Olson – Co-Chair
- Senator Click Bishop

- Senator Kelly Merrick
- Senator Jesse Kiehl
- Senator David Wilson

V. Next Steps

Rebecca Dean designated as spokesperson for Legislative committee for 6/16/2023 board meeting.

1. Staff to finalize drafted letters as discussed and load into OnBoard.
2. Rebecca Dean to present Letters of Support for SB74/HB137, SB83 and HB85 as drafted to the board for approval at full board meeting on Friday, June 16, 2023.
3. Request to have training/role play at November in-person meeting on testifying at Legislative hearings.

VI. Adjourn

Alaska State Board of Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy Legislative Committee meeting adjourned at 10:27 am on Friday, June 9, 2023.