



Legislative Council Staff

Research Note

Version: Final

Date: 4/25/2017

Bill Number

House Bill 17-1057

Sponsors

*Representatives Winter & Liston
Senators Kerr & Gardner*

Short Title

*Interstate Physical Therapy
Licensure Compact*

Research Analyst

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Status

This research note reflects the final version of the bill which becomes effective upon signature of the Governor, or upon becoming law without his signature.

Background

A licensure compact is an agreement that allows for recognition between member states of a license or credential earned by an individual in a designated profession in another participating state. Licensure compacts are enacted into law by participating states. Twenty-five states, including Colorado, currently participate in a nurse licensure compact.

The Division of Professions and Occupations in the Department of Regulatory Agencies regulates and licenses physical therapists and physical therapy assistants in the state. An individual can obtain a license by meeting certain education and testing requirements or by demonstrating that he or she has equivalent experience and credentials. The application fee is \$100. Individuals are required to obtain professional liability insurance prior to practicing as a physical therapist in the state. There are approximately 9,300 licensed physical therapists and certified physical therapy assistants in Colorado.

House Action

House Health, Insurance & Environment Committee (January 26, 2017). At the hearing, three individuals testified in support of the bill, including a representative of the University of Colorado Physical Therapy Program and a representative of the American Physical Therapy Association. The committee referred the bill to the House Finance Committee.

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House Finance Committee (February 1, 2017). The committee referred the bill to the House Appropriations Committee.

House Appropriations Committee (March 31, 2017). The committee adopted amendment J.001, which adds an appropriations clause. The committee referred the bill, as amended, to the House Committee of the Whole.

House second reading (March 31, 2017). The House adopted the House Appropriations committee report and passed the bill on second reading.

House third reading (April 3, 2017). The House adopted a floor amendment, which modifies the responsibilities of the State Physical Therapy Board under the bill. The House passed the bill on third reading, as amended.

Senate Action

Senate Finance Committee (April 13, 2017). At the hearing one individual representing the American Physical Therapy Association testified in support of the bill. The committee adopted amendment L.004, which adds a safety clause. The committee referred the bill, as amended, to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

Senate Appropriations Committee (April 20, 2017). The committee referred the bill to the Senate Committee of the Whole.

Senate second reading (April 24, 2017). The Senate adopted the Senate Finance committee report and passed the bill on second reading, as amended.

Senate third reading (April 25, 2017). The Senate passed the bill on third reading with no amendments.

Relevant Research

DORA Physical Therapy Board: https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/dora/Physical_Therapy