

## SENATE BILL No. 59

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### DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

**Citations Affected:** IC 25-23.5-3-1.5.

**Synopsis:** Occupational therapy services. Allows an occupational therapist to provide occupational therapy services to an individual during a period of not more than 42 calendar days beginning on the day on which the occupational therapist first provides occupational therapy services to the individual. Allows an occupational therapist to provide occupational therapy services to an individual after the 42 day period only if the occupational therapist obtains a referral from, or acts on the order of, a physician, podiatrist, advanced practice registered nurse, psychologist, chiropractor, optometrist, or physician's assistant. Allows an occupational therapist, without a referral or order from a health care provider, to provide: (1) ergonomic or home assessment services; (2) injury or illness prevention education and wellness services; (3) occupational therapy activities provided in an educational setting; or (4) occupational therapy activities that the medical licensing board of Indiana determines to be appropriate to be conducted in a community based environment.

**Effective:** July 1, 2021.

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**Becker, Messmer, Charbonneau**

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January 4, 2021, read first time and referred to Committee on Health and Provider Services.

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First Regular Session of the 122nd General Assembly (2021)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2020 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

## SENATE BILL No. 59

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning professions and occupations.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

- 1       SECTION 1. IC 25-23.5-3-1.5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.129-2018,  
2       SECTION 36, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
3       JULY 1, 2021]: Sec. 1.5. (a) ~~Except as provided in subsection (b);~~ An  
4       occupational therapist may ~~not~~ provide occupational therapy services  
5       to a person until the person has been referred to the occupational  
6       therapist by, or the occupational therapist is acting on the order of, **an**  
7       **individual during a period of not more than forty-two (42)**  
8       **calendar days beginning on the day on which the occupational**  
9       **therapist first provides occupational therapy services to the**  
10      **individual.**  
11      **(b) Except as provided in subsection (c), to provide occupational**  
12      **therapy services to an individual after the period referred to in**  
13      **subsection (a), the occupational therapist must obtain a referral**  
14      **from, or act on the order of, one (1) of the following:**  
15          (1) A physician or osteopathic physician licensed under  
16          IC 25-22.5.  
17          (2) A podiatrist licensed under IC 25-29.



(3) An advanced practice registered nurse licensed under IC 25-23.

(4) A psychologist licensed under IC 25-33.

(5) A chiropractor licensed under IC 25-10.

(6) An optometrist licensed under IC 25-24.

(7) A physician assistant licensed under IC 25-27.5.

The occupational therapist shall report to the practitioner as specified by the practitioner who provided the referral or order. However, if the practitioner does not specify a reporting requirement, the occupational therapist shall report to the practitioner upon completion or termination of occupational therapy services.

~~(b)~~ (c) An occupational therapist may provide the following services without a referral **or order** from a ~~person~~ **health care provider** listed in subsection ~~(a)~~: **(b)(1) through (b)(7)**:

(1) Ergonomic or home assessment.

(2) Injury or illness prevention education and wellness services.

(3) Occupational therapy activities provided in an educational setting.

(4) Occupational therapy activities that the board determines, after reviewing the recommendations of the committee, are appropriate to be conducted in a community based environment.

