

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2009

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HOUSE BILL 1374

Short Title: Update and Modernize Physical Therapy Act. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Gibson, Allen, McLawhorn, Howard (Primary Sponsors);
M. Alexander, Brown, Glazier, Insko, and Lucas.

Referred to: Health, if favorable, Finance.

April 9, 2009

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO MAKE CHANGES TO SOME PARTS OF THE NORTH CAROLINA
3 PHYSICAL THERAPY PRACTICE ACT BY REVISING AND UPDATING
4 STATUTORY LANGUAGE TO MORE APPROPRIATELY REFLECT NATIONALLY
5 ACCEPTED STANDARDS AND REQUIREMENTS FOR THE PRACTICE OF
6 PHYSICAL THERAPY, TO AUTHORIZE PHYSICAL THERAPISTS TO JOIN SOME
7 TWENTY-THREE OTHER LICENSED PROFESSIONAL GROUPS BY
8 PARTICIPATING IN THE NORTH CAROLINA PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION
9 ACT, AND TO PROVIDE OTHER MODIFICATIONS.

10 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

11 **SECTION 1.** G.S. 90-270.24 reads as rewritten:

12 "**§ 90-270.24. Definitions.**

13 In this Article, unless the context otherwise requires, the following definitions shall apply:

- 14 (1) "Board" means the North Carolina Board of Physical Therapy Examiners.
- 15 (2) "Physical therapist" means any person who ~~practices~~ is licensed pursuant to
16 this Article to practice physical therapy in accordance with the provisions of
17 this Article and is regulated by the Article in his or her physical therapy
18 conduct and activities.
- 19 (3) "Physical therapist assistant" means any person who ~~assists in the practice of~~
20 ~~physical therapy in accordance with the provisions of this Article, is licensed~~
21 and regulated under this Article to practice as an assistant to one or more
22 physical therapists, and who works only under the supervision of a physical
23 therapist by in performing such selected components of physical therapy
24 intervention and patient-related treatment activities assigned by a the
25 physical therapist which are commensurate with the physical therapist
26 assistant's education and education, training, and experience. but
27 ~~an~~ However, a physical therapist assistant's work shall not include the
28 interpretation and implementation of referrals from licensed medical doctors
29 or dentists, the performance of patient evaluations, or the determination or
30 ~~major independent~~ modification of treatment programs plans.
- 31 (4) "Physical therapy" means the ~~evaluation or treatment of any person by the~~
32 use of physical, chemical, or other properties of heat, light, water, electricity,
33 sound, massage, or therapeutic exercise, or other rehabilitative procedures,
34 with or without assistive devices, for the purposes of preventing, correcting,
35 or alleviating a physical or mental disability. Physical therapy includes the
36 performance of specialized tests of neuromuscular function, administration



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1 of specialized therapeutic procedures, interpretation and implementation of
2 referrals from licensed medical doctors or dentists, and establishment and
3 modification of physical therapy programs for patients. Evaluation care and
4 services provided by a physical therapist licensed pursuant to this Article or
5 by a physical therapist assistant licensed pursuant to the Article under the
6 supervision and direction of a licensed physical therapist, including the
7 evaluation and treatment of patients ~~may involve~~ involving physical
8 measures, methods, or procedures as are found commensurate with physical
9 therapy education and training and generally or specifically authorized by
10 regulations of the Board. Physical therapy education and training shall
11 include study of the skeletal manifestations of systemic disease. Physical
12 therapy includes the evaluation or treatment of any person by the use of
13 physical, chemical, or other properties of heat, light, water, electricity,
14 sound, massage, or therapeutic exercise, or other rehabilitative procedures,
15 with or without assistive devices, for the purposes of preventing, correcting,
16 or alleviating a physical or mental disability. Physical therapy further
17 includes the performance of electrodiagnostic, electrophysiologic, and other
18 specialized tests of neuromuscular function or physical capacities;
19 administration of specialized therapeutic procedures; interpretation and
20 implementation of referrals from licensed medical doctors or dentists; and
21 establishment and modification of physical therapy plans or programs for
22 patients. Physical therapy does not include the application of roentgen rays
23 or radioactive materials, surgery, manipulation of the spine unless prescribed
24 by a physician licensed to practice medicine in North Carolina, or medical
25 diagnosis of disease.

26 (5) "Physical therapy aide" means any nonlicensed person who aids in the
27 practice of physical therapy in accordance with the provisions of this Article,
28 and who at all times acts under the orders, direction, and on-site supervision
29 of a licensed physical therapist or physical therapist assistant. assistant
30 acting within the scope of the physical therapist assistant's authorized areas
31 of practice. An aide may only perform physical therapy related activities
32 which are assigned and are commensurate with an aide's training and
33 abilities, but an aide's work shall not include the interpretation and
34 implementation of referrals from licensed medical doctors or dentists, the
35 performance of evaluations, the determination and modification of treatment
36 programs, or any independent performance of any physical therapy
37 procedures. expressly assigned routine tasks related to physical therapy
38 services that do not require a license under this Article.

39 (6) "Physiotherapy" means the same as physical 'therapy' as defined in
40 subdivision (4) of this subsection. The term is historically significant in the
41 development of physical therapy in the United States and is currently
42 sometimes used internationally to refer to the physical therapy discipline.
43 The limitations and requirements of this Article concerning the State's
44 regulation of physical therapy shall apply with the same force and effect if
45 physical therapy care, services, and activities are characterized as
46 physiotherapy.

47 (7) "Restricted license" means a physical therapist or physical therapist
48 assistant's license on which the Board has placed restrictions or conditions,
49 which may limit practice by the license holder as to scope or place of
50 practice, supervision, duration of licensed status, or type or condition of
51 patients or clients to whom the licensee may provide services."

1 **SECTION 2.** G.S. 90-270.26 reads as rewritten:

2 "**§ 90-270.26. Powers of the Board.**

3 The Board shall have the following general powers and duties:

- 4 (1) Examine and determine the qualifications and fitness of applicants for a
5 license to practice physical therapy in this State;
- 6 (2) Issue, renew, deny, suspend, ~~restrict~~, or revoke licenses to practice as a
7 physical therapist or a physical therapy-therapist assistant in this State, or
8 reprimand or otherwise discipline licensed physical therapists and physical
9 therapist assistants;
- 10 (3) Conduct confidential investigations for the purpose of determining whether
11 violations of this Article or grounds for disciplining licensed physical
12 therapists or physical therapist assistants ~~exist~~; exist. Investigation records
13 shall not be considered public records under Chapter 132 of the General
14 Statutes. However, hearing notices and statements of charges and any
15 materials received and admitted into evidence at Board hearings shall be
16 public records, despite being developed or compiled as a result of an
17 investigation;
- 18 (3a) Establish mechanisms for assessing the continuing competence of licensed
19 physical therapists or physical therapist assistants to engage in the practice
20 of physical therapy, including approving rules requiring licensees to
21 periodically, or in response to complaints or incident reports, submit to the
22 Board: (i) evidence of continuing education experiences; (ii) evidence of
23 minimum standard accomplishments; or (iii) evidence of compliance with
24 other Board-approved measures, audits, or evaluations; and specify remedial
25 actions if necessary or desirable to obtain license renewal or reinstatement;
- 26 (3b) Issue subpoenas to compel the attendance of any witness or the production
27 of any documents relative to investigations or Board proceedings;
- 28 (3c) Request the Department of Justice to provide criminal background checks
29 pursuant to G.S. 90-270.26.1 in connection with licensure or investigation
30 matters;
- 31 (4) Employ such professional, clerical or special personnel necessary to carry
32 out the provisions of this Article, and may purchase or rent necessary office
33 space, equipment and supplies;
- 34 (5) Conduct administrative hearings in accordance with Chapter 150B of the
35 General Statutes when a "contested case" as defined in G.S. 150B-2(2) arises
36 under this Article;
- 37 (6) Appoint from its own membership one or more members to act as
38 representatives of the Board at any meeting where such representation is
39 deemed desirable;
- 40 (7) Establish reasonable fees for applications for examination, certificates of
41 licensure and renewal, and other services provided by the Board;
- 42 (8) Adopt, amend, or repeal any rules or regulations necessary to carry out the
43 purposes of this Article and the duties and responsibilities of the
44 ~~Board~~; Board;
- 45 (9) Regulate physical therapy professional corporations pursuant to Chapter 55B
46 of the General Statutes and this Article, including adopting rules for the
47 registration of physical therapy professional corporations;
- 48 (10) Establish or participate in programs for aiding in the recovery and
49 rehabilitation of physical therapists and physical therapist assistants who
50 experience chemical or alcohol addiction or abuse or mental health
51 problems;

1 (11) Acquire, hold, rent, encumber, alienate, and otherwise deal with real
2 property in the same manner as a private person or corporation, subject only
3 to approval of the Governor and the Council of State. Collateral pledged by
4 the Board for an encumbrance is limited to the assets, income, and revenues
5 of the Board.

6 The powers and duties enumerated above are granted for the purpose of enabling the Board
7 to safeguard the public health, safety and welfare against unqualified or incompetent
8 practitioners of physical therapy, and are to be liberally construed to accomplish this objective.
9 In instances where the Board makes a decision to discipline physical therapists or physical
10 therapist assistants under powers set out by any of subsections (2) through (5) of this section, it
11 may as part of its decision charge the reasonable costs of investigation and hearing to the
12 person disciplined."

13 **SECTION 3.** Chapter 90 of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new
14 section to read:

15 "**§ 90-270.26.1. Criminal history record checks of licensure applicants or investigation**
16 **subjects in the practice of physical therapy.**

17 The Department of Justice may provide to the Board a criminal record check from the State
18 and National Repositories of Criminal Histories for applicants for licensure or subjects of
19 investigation by the Board. Along with a request for history records, the Board shall provide to
20 the Department of Justice the fingerprints of the applicant or subject, a form signed by the
21 applicant or subject consenting to the criminal history record checks and use of the fingerprints
22 and other identifying information required by the Repositories, and any additional information
23 required by the Department. The fingerprints shall be forwarded to the State Bureau of
24 Investigation for a search of the State's criminal history record file, and the State Bureau of
25 Investigation shall forward a set of fingerprints to the Federal Bureau of Investigation for a
26 national criminal history record check. The Board shall keep all information obtained pursuant
27 to this section confidential. The Department of Justice may charge a fee to offset the cost
28 incurred by it to conduct a criminal history record check under this section, but the fee shall not
29 exceed the actual cost of locating, editing, researching, and retrieving the information."

30 **SECTION 4.** G.S. 90-270.29 reads as rewritten:

31 "**§ 90-270.29. Qualifications of applicants for examination; Examination; qualifications of**
32 **applicants; application; fee-fees; Board disqualification; national requirement.**

33 (a) Any person who desires to be licensed under this Article and who:

- 34 (1) Is of good moral character;
35 (2) If an applicant for physical therapy licensure, has been graduated from a
36 physical therapy program accredited by an agency recognized by either the
37 U.S. Office of Education or the Council on Postsecondary Accreditation; and
38 (3) If an applicant for physical therapist assistant licensure, has been graduated
39 from a physical therapist assistant educational program accredited by an
40 agency recognized by either the U.S. Office of Education or the Council on
41 Postsecondary Accreditation;

42 may make application on a form furnished by the Board for examination for licensure as a
43 physical therapist or physical therapist assistant. At the time of making such application, the
44 applicant shall pay to the secretary-treasurer of the Board the fee prescribed by the Board, no
45 portion of which shall be returned.

46 (b) If the Board determines that an applicant has engaged in or attempted to engage in
47 conduct that subverts or undermines the integrity of the examination process, the Board may
48 disqualify the applicant from taking or retaking the examination for a specified period of time.

49 (c) The Board shall provide for examinations in this State.

50 (d) The physical therapist examination shall be a national examination that tests
51 entry-level competence related to physical therapy theory; patient examination; evaluation,

1 including physical therapy diagnosis and prognosis; treatment; intervention; prevention; and
2 consultation.

3 (e) The physical therapist assistant examination shall be a national examination that
4 tests for requisite knowledge and skills of physical therapist assistants in the theory and
5 technical application of supervised physical therapy services."

6 **SECTION 5.** G.S. 90-270.30 is repealed.

7 **SECTION 6.** Chapter 90 of the General Statutes is amended by adding the
8 following new section to read:

9 **"§ 90-270.30.1. Requirements for licensure.**

10 (a) To obtain a license to practice as a physical therapist, an applicant shall meet the
11 following requirements:

12 (1) Meet the application requirements of G.S. 90-270.29(a)(1) and (2), including
13 submitting proof of graduation from a qualifying program.

14 (2) Pass an examination approved under G.S. 90-270.29.

15 (3) Meet all other applicable requirements for licensure pursuant to rules
16 adopted by the Board.

17 (b) If an applicant is foreign educated, to obtain a license to practice as a physical
18 therapist, the applicant shall meet the following requirements:

19 (1) Meet the relevant application requirements of G.S. 90-270.29(a).

20 (2) Submit documentary evidence of completion of a course of instruction
21 substantially equivalent to that required under G.S. 90-270.29(a)(2).

22 (3) Demonstrate satisfactory proficiency in the English language.

23 (4) Pass an examination approved under G.S. 90-270.29.

24 (5) Meet all other applicable requirements for licensure pursuant to rules
25 adopted by the Board.

26 (c) To obtain a license to practice as a physical therapist assistant, an applicant shall
27 meet the following requirements:

28 (1) Meet the application requirements of G.S. 90-270.29(a)(1) and (3), including
29 submitting proof of graduation from a qualifying program approved by the
30 Board.

31 (2) Pass an examination approved under G.S. 90-270.29.

32 (3) Meet all other applicable requirements for licensure pursuant to rules
33 adopted by the Board."

34 **SECTION 7.** G.S. 90-270.31 reads as rewritten:

35 **"§ 90-270.31. Certificates of licensure.**

36 (a) The Board shall furnish a certificate of licensure to each applicant successfully
37 passing the examination and meeting the other requirements of this Article for licensure as a
38 physical therapist or physical therapist assistant, respectively. Upon receipt of satisfactory
39 evidence that an applicant has graduated, within six months prior to application, from a
40 physical therapy or physical therapy assistant program accredited as required under
41 G.S. 90-270.29, the Board may authorize the applicant to perform as a physical therapist or
42 physical therapist assistant in this State, but only under the immediate supervision of a physical
43 therapist licensed in this State, until a formal decision by the Board on the application for
44 license. If a new graduate applicant that has been authorized to perform under supervision by a
45 licensed physical therapist fails (without due cause as determined in the Board's discretion) to
46 take the next succeeding examination, or if the applicant fails to pass the examination, and
47 consequently does not become licensed, the authorization for the applicant to perform under
48 supervision shall expire. Applicants approved by the Board for performance as physical
49 therapists or physical therapist assistants while their applications are pending under
50 circumstances described in this subsection shall be referred to as Physical Therapist Graduate
51 or Physical Therapist Assistant Graduate.

1 (b) The Board shall furnish a certificate of licensure to any person who is a physical
2 therapist or physical therapist assistant registered or licensed under the laws of another state or
3 territory, if the individual's qualifications were at the date of his registration or licensure
4 substantially equal to the requirements under this Article. When making such application, the
5 applicant shall pay to the secretary-treasurer of the Board the fee prescribed by the Board, no
6 portion of which shall be returned.

7 (c) When a licensed physical therapist or physical therapist assistant is required or
8 chooses to identify himself or herself in any written expression as a person licensed under this
9 Article, a licensed physical therapist or licensed physical therapist assistant shall, at a
10 minimum, use the abbreviation 'PT' or 'PTA' immediately after his or her name. The
11 requirement does not prevent the use of other legitimate and earned academic or professional
12 abbreviations or references listed after the 'PT' or 'PTA' abbreviations, where not otherwise
13 prohibited by G.S. 90-270.35(2) or other provisions of law."

14 **SECTION 8.** Chapter 90 of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new
15 section to read:

16 "**§ 90-270.31.1. Physical therapy professional corporations.**

17 (a) Physical therapists licensed in North Carolina are authorized to form professional
18 corporations engaged in rendering physical therapy professional services in accordance with
19 Chapter 55B of the General Statutes.

20 (b) The Board shall not issue a certification to a professional corporation pursuant to
21 G.S. 55B-6 for the issue or transfer of stock to an individual who is not licensed as a physical
22 therapist under this Article unless the individual presents evidence satisfactory to the Board that
23 the laws governing or regulating physical therapy practices and professional corporations in the
24 jurisdiction where he or she is duly licensed and the performance of physical therapy
25 professional services are equivalent to the provisions of this Article and Chapter 55B of the
26 General Statutes."

27 **SECTION 9.** G.S. 90-270.32(a) reads as rewritten:

28 "(a) Every licensed physical therapist or physical therapist assistant shall, ~~during the~~
29 ~~month of by January 31~~ of every year, ~~apply submit the appropriate application~~ to the Board for
30 a renewal of ~~licensure~~ licensure, provide evidence of continuing competence as may be
31 required by rules adopted by the Board, and pay to the secretary-treasurer the prescribed fee.
32 Licenses that are not so renewed shall automatically lapse. The Board may decline to renew
33 licenses of physical therapists or physical therapist assistants for failure to comply with any
34 required continuing competency measures."

35 **SECTION 10.** G.S. 90-270.34(a) reads as rewritten:

36 "(a) The following persons shall be permitted to practice physical therapy or assist in the
37 practice in this State without obtaining a license under this Article upon the terms and
38 conditions specified herein:

- 39 (1) Students enrolled in accredited physical therapist or physical therapist
40 assistant educational programs, while engaged in completing a clinical
41 requirement for graduation, which must be performed under the supervision
42 of a licensed physical therapist;
- 43 (2) Physical therapists licensed in other jurisdictions while enrolled in graduate
44 educational programs in this State that include the evaluation and treatment
45 of patients as part of their experience required for credit, so long as the
46 student is not at the same time gainfully employed in this State as a physical
47 therapist;
- 48 (3) ~~Practitioners of physical therapy~~ Physical therapists and physical therapist
49 assistants employed in the United States armed services, United States
50 Public Health Service, Veterans Administration or other federal agency, to
51 the extent permitted under federal law, so long as the practitioner limits

- 1 services to those directly relating to work with the employing government
 2 agency;
- 3 (4) Physical therapists or physical therapist assistants licensed in other
 4 jurisdictions who are teaching or participating in special physical therapy
 5 education projects, demonstrations or courses in this State, in which their
 6 participation in the evaluation and treatment of patients is minimal;
- 7 ~~(5) A physical therapy aide while in the performance of those acts and practices
 8 specified in G.S. 90-270.24(5);~~
- 9 ~~(6) Persons authorized to perform as physical therapists or physical therapist
 10 assistants under the provision of G.S. 90-270.31.~~
- 11 (7) Physical therapists or physical therapist assistants who are licensed in
 12 another jurisdiction of the United States or credentialed in another country, if
 13 that person by contract or employment is providing physical therapy to
 14 individuals affiliated with or employed by established athletic teams, athletic
 15 organizations, or performing arts companies temporarily practicing,
 16 competing, or performing in this State for no more than 60 days in a
 17 calendar year;
- 18 (8) Physical therapists or physical therapist assistants licensed in another
 19 jurisdiction of the United States who enter this State to provide physical
 20 therapy during a declared local, State, or national disaster or emergency. The
 21 exemption applies for no longer than the standard annual renewal time in the
 22 State. To be eligible for the exemption, the licensee shall notify the Board of
 23 the licensee's intent to practice physical therapy pursuant to this subdivision.
- 24 (9) Physical therapists or physical therapist assistants licensed in another
 25 jurisdiction of the United States who are forced to leave their residence or
 26 place of employment due to a declared local, State, or national disaster or
 27 emergency, and, due to such displacement, need to practice physical therapy.
 28 The exemption applies for no longer than the standard annual renewal time
 29 but may be renewed by the Board for additional periods. To be eligible for
 30 the exemption, the licensee shall notify the Board of the licensee's intent to
 31 practice physical therapy pursuant to this subdivision."

32 **SECTION 11.** G.S. 90-270.35 reads as rewritten:

33 **"§ 90-270.35. Unlawful practice.**

34 Except as otherwise authorized in this Article, ~~if any~~ a person, firm, or corporation ~~shall~~
 35 shall be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor if the person, firm, or corporation does any of the
 36 following:

- 37 (1) Practice, attempt to practice, teach, consult, or supervise in physical therapy,
 38 or hold out any person as being able to do any of these things in this State,
 39 without first having obtained a license or authorization from the Board for
 40 the person performing services or being so held out;
- 41 (2) Use in connection with any person's name any ~~letters, words, letters,~~
 42 including 'PT,' 'DPT,' 'LPT,' or 'RPT'; words, including physical therapy,
 43 physical therapist, physiotherapist, physiotherapy, doctor of physical
 44 therapy, licensed physical therapist, or registered physical therapist;
 45 numerical codes, codes; or insignia indicating or implying that the person is a
 46 physical therapist or physical therapist assistant, or applicant with
 47 "Graduate" status, therapist, unless the person is licensed or authorized in
 48 accordance with this Article; Article. The phrase 'registered physical
 49 therapist' or the abbreviation 'RPT' or 'LPT' shall not be used to indicate
 50 licensure under this Article;

- 1 (2a) Use in connection with a person's name any letters, including 'PTA,' 'LPTA,'
 2 or 'RPTA'; words, including physical therapist assistant, physiotherapist
 3 assistant, licensed physical therapist assistant, or registered physical therapist
 4 assistant; numerical codes; or insignia indicating or implying that the person
 5 is a physical therapist assistant, unless the person is licensed or authorized in
 6 accordance with this Article. The phrase 'registered physical therapist
 7 assistant' or the abbreviation 'RPTA' or 'LPTA' shall not be used to indicate
 8 licensure under this Article;
- 9 (3) Practice or attempt to practice physical therapy with a revoked, lapsed, or
 10 suspended license;
- 11 (4) Practice physical therapy and fail to refer to a licensed medical doctor or
 12 dentist any patient whose medical condition should have, at the time of
 13 evaluation or treatment, been determined to be beyond the scope of practice
 14 of a physical therapist;
- 15 (5) Aid, abet, or assist any unlicensed person to practice physical therapy in
 16 violation of this Article; or
- 17 (6) Violate any of the provisions of this Article;
- 18 ~~said person, firm, or corporation shall be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. Each act of such~~
 19 ~~unlawful practice shall constitute a distinct and separate offense."~~

20 **SECTION 12.** G.S. 90-270.36 reads as rewritten:

21 **"§ 90-270.36. Grounds for disciplinary action.**

22 Grounds for disciplinary action shall include but not be limited to the following:

- 23 (1) The employment of fraud, deceit or misrepresentation in obtaining or
 24 attempting to obtain a license, or the renewal thereof;
- 25 (2) The use of drugs or intoxicating liquors to an extent which affects
 26 professional competency;
- 27 (3) Conviction of an offense under any municipal, State, or federal narcotic or
 28 controlled substance law, until proof of rehabilitation can be established;
- 29 (4) Conviction of a felony or other public offense involving moral turpitude,
 30 until proof of rehabilitation can be established;
- 31 (5) An adjudication of insanity or incompetency, until proof of recovery from
 32 the condition can be established;
- 33 (6) Engaging in any act or practice violative of any of the provisions of this
 34 Article or of any of the rules and regulations adopted by the Board, or
 35 aiding, abetting or assisting any other person in the violation of the same;
- 36 (7) The commission of an act or acts of malpractice, gross negligence or
 37 incompetence in the practice of physical therapy;
- 38 (8) Practice as a licensed physical therapist or physical therapist assistant
 39 without a valid ~~certificate of renewal;~~ license;
- 40 (8a) Violation of the recognized standard of ethics of the physical therapy
 41 profession established under rules adopted by the Board;
- 42 (8b) Failing to report to the Board when a licensee has direct, personal
 43 knowledge of any unprofessional, incompetent, or illegal act in violation of
 44 this Article or rules adopted by the Board;
- 45 (8c) Interfering with an investigation or disciplinary proceeding of the Board by
 46 failure to cooperate, by willful misrepresentation of facts, or by use of
 47 threats or harassment against any patient or witness; or
- 48 (9) Engaging in conduct that could result in harm or injury to the public."
- 49 **SECTION 13.** G.S. 55B-2(6) reads as rewritten:
- 50 "(6) The term "professional service" means any type of personal or professional
 51 service of the public which requires as a condition precedent to the rendering

1 of such service the obtaining of a license from a licensing board as herein
2 defined, and pursuant to the following provisions of the General Statutes:
3 Chapter 83A, "Architects"; Chapter 84, "Attorneys-at-Law"; Chapter 93,
4 "Public Accountants"; and the following Articles in Chapter 90: Article 1,
5 "Practice of Medicine," Article 2, "Dentistry," Article 6, "Optometry,"
6 Article 7, "Osteopathy," Article 8, "Chiropractic," Article 9A, "Nursing
7 Practice Act," with regard to registered nurses, Article 11, "Veterinarians,"
8 Article 12A, "Podiatrists," Article 18A, "Practicing Psychologists," Article
9 18B, "Physical Therapy," Article 18C, "Marriage and Family Therapy
10 Licensure," Article 18D, "Occupational Therapy," Article 22, "Licensure Act
11 for Speech and Language Pathologists and Audiologists," and Article 24,
12 "Licensed Professional Counselors"; Chapter 89C, "Engineering and Land
13 Surveying"; Chapter 89A, "Landscape Architects"; Chapter 90B, "Social
14 Worker Certification and Licensure Act" with regard to Licensed Clinical
15 Social Workers as defined by G.S. 90B-3; Chapter 89E, "Geologists";
16 Chapter 89B, "Foresters"; and Chapter 89F, "North Carolina Soil Scientist
17 Licensing Act".

18 **SECTION 14.** This act is effective when it becomes law.