

NJOTA's Legislative Plan

01

Regulation Changes

- NJOTA Board drafted regulation changes that **were submitted to the OT Advisory Council**, and it is **currently under review**. NJOTA submitted these changes in March of 2023 and again in September 2023.
- Including expansion of **telehealth language, OTA supervision, clarification of mental health definitions, and expanded scope of practice to include emerging practice areas.**

02

Advocating for these Necessary Changes

- The board advocates by providing evidence for the changes and attending all upcoming advisory council meetings. However, **the time for OTPs to advocate is NOW.**
- To advocate for these regulation changes, attend the next **OT Advisory Council meeting** and/or **draft an email/letter of support on how these regulation changes best serve consumers. consumers.**

03

Identifying Statute Changes

- We are currently **drafting support** for desired **statute changes and supporting evidence.**
- Identifying these changes and **providing evidence** as to why **these changes would benefit consumers.**

(New Jersey Principals and Supervisors Association, 2020)

04

Finding a Legislative Sponsor

- Find a **Legislative sponsor** to submit the statute changes we aim to make.
- Emphasize changes that are **required** to allow NJ to **join the OT National Compact.**

(AOTA & NBCOT, 2020; Sullivan, 2007; & The New Jersey Legislature, 2002)

05

Drafting a Bill and Opening up the OT Licensing Act

- Supporting sponsors takes on our mission. Our **sponsors** will then present our ideas to **billwriters and draft the changes.**
- After the bill is drafted, the sponsor will **introduce the proposed legislation to the Senate and General Assembly.**
- Once the bill has its **"first reading"**, it can be **commented on.** This commentary period is **an interactive and dynamic process** throughout the entire legislative timeline.
- Stakeholders can either provide **written or verbal comments on the bill.**

(The New Jersey Legislature, 2002 & New Jersey State Library, 2023)

06

Grassroots Advocacy

- **Advocacy** is **KEY** throughout the entire process! Check out **njota.org/advocacy** in the **near future** for specific ways to get involved.
- The more your representatives hear from you about how **these changes benefit consumers**, the more likely they will **vote to pass** the bill.

(WFOT, 2020)

07

After the Bill Passes

- The proposed bill is **voted on and passed in both the General Assembly and Senate**
- It is then brought to the **Governor.**
- Once **it is signed**, the **bill then goes into law and is in effect.**

(New Jersey Principals and Supervisors Association, 2020)

08

What Happens Next?

- After the Bill is passed, the **OT Advisory Council updates the OT Regulations to reflect the new law.**
- Then, NJ would **be eligible to present OT National Compact Legislation.**

(AOTA & NBCOT, 2020)

References QR Code



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Authored by: Angela Sista, NJOTA's Advocacy Chair; Kean University OTDS
Reviewed by: Felicia Chew, MS, OTR/L, FAOTA, FNAP, NJOTA President; Mariann Moran CHT, OTR, NJOTA State Liason, Emily Balog, PhD, OTR/L, ECHM, NJOTA Legislative Co-chair; Stephanie Franklin-Cosgrove, OTR, CHT, NJOTA Legislative Co-chair; and by Senior Partner of Public Strategies Impact