

# BOARD OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

## OPEN SESSION MINUTES

### DECEMBER 18, 2023

### 2:30-3:30 pm

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#### HYBRID MEETING NOTICE

*Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Board will have a hybrid schedule of in-person and virtual meetings. In-person meetings will resume in FY 2023, meeting dates can be found on the Board's webpage.*

*In-person meetings will be at 899 North Capitol Street, NE, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Washington, DC 20002.*

*Information on how to access the public portion of the meeting virtually is listed below:*

**This meeting was available by Web**

**Join By Web:**

<https://dcnet.webex.com/dcnet/j.php?MTID=m9b77c4fde33477cdb9456dd5be299903>

**Join by Phone**

Call in Number: 1-650-479-3208 Call-in number (US/Canada)

Access Code: 473 153 723

**BOOT Mission Statement:**

"To provide oversight to licensed professionals and ensure the health and safety of citizens and visitors in the District of Columbia through the provision of health care services."

**OPEN SESSION MINUTES DECEMBER 18, 2023**

OS-1223-01	<p><b>CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL</b> On December 18, 2023, the Open Session meeting was called to order at 2:30pm and a quorum was established.</p> <p><b>Board Members:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. Gillian Rai Board Chairperson –Present</li> <li>• Mr. Charles Bond -Present</li> </ul> <p><b>Board Staff:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LaTrice Herndon Executive Director</li> <li>• Mavis Azariah – Health Licensing Specialist</li> <li>• Joanne Drozdoski – Board Attorney</li> <li>• Leonard Howard – Board Investigator</li> </ul> <p><b>Visitor:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. Konah Bernard- NBCOT District of Columbia Ambassador Representative</li> <li>• Delvin Champagne- DC OTA Legislative Chair</li> <li>• Nicholas Weil-</li> <li>• Frank Gainer- Occupational Therapist</li> <li>• Lisa Simmons– Director of Master of Occupational Therapy Program at Trinity University</li> </ul>
OS-1223-02	<p><b><u>APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA</u></b> <b>Board Action:</b> Consideration of the Open Session Agenda from the December 18, 2023 meeting. <b>Motion:</b> Motion made by Mr. Bond to accept the December 18, 2023, Open Session agenda. Seconded by Dr. Rai. <b>Vote:</b> Dr. Rai and Mr. Bond, voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously</p>
OS-1223-03	<p><b><u>EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT:</u></b> <b>Operational Status</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DC Health is scheduled to relocate at the end of February 2024. The last day at 899 North Capitol St is set for February 23, and the first day at the new building is located at 2201 Shannon Place SE is planned for February 26th.</li> <li>• On October 5th, the Committee on Health convened a confirmation hearing, during which Acting Director Bennett articulated her eagerness and qualifications for the position. Following a unanimous vote of support from the committee members, her nomination was approved by the Council on November 7th.</li> <li>• Councilmember Gray has introduced bills that would have the district join two health professional licensing compacts:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The <i>Occupational Therapy Licensure Compact Approval Act of 2023</i> (<a href="#">B25-0286</a>) would have the district join the Occupational Therapy Licensure Compact and applies to Occupational Therapists and Occupational Therapy Assistants. The</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<p>compact is not operational but is scheduled to start accepting applications in mid-2024.</p> <p><b>New License Type/Pathway</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DC Health is exploring different license types and license type pathways for licensure. The agency is looking to modify the endorsement license requirements and investigate the possibility of reciprocity pathways with Maryland and Virginia.</li> </ul> <p><b>Board Vacancies/MOTA Update</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We've recently welcomed a new MOTA liaison on board, as Ms. Vida Rangel has taken up a new position elsewhere. Ms. Tierra Williams is our new liaison and will be responsible for coordinating with DOH matters related to board appointments, reappointments, and filling vacancies.</li> <li>The Board currently has two (2*) board member vacancies. One (2) occupational therapist and one (1) consumer member. However, one of the occupational therapist vacancies is pending approval.</li> </ul> <p><b>Licensure Census</b></p> <p><b>OT: 768</b></p> <p><b>OTA:54</b></p> <p><b>Recreation Therapist:36</b></p> <p><b>Dance Therapist: 8</b></p> <p><b>Legislative Updates</b></p> <p><b>Health Professional Compact Bills:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Councilmember Gray has introduced bills that would have the District join two health professional licensing compacts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The <i>Occupational Therapy Licensure Compact Approval Act of 2023</i> (<a href="#">B25-0286</a>) would have the District join the Occupational Therapy Licensure Compact and applies to Occupational Therapists and Occupational Therapy Assistants. The compact is not operational but is scheduled to start accepting applications in mid-2024.</li> <li>The <i>Counseling Compact Approval Act of 2023</i> (<a href="#">B25-0287</a>) would have the District join the Counseling Compact and applies to Licensed Professional Counselors (LPCs).</li> </ul> </li> <li>Additionally, Councilmember Frumin has introduced the <i>District of Columbia Nurse Licensure Compact Authorization Act of 2023</i> (<a href="#">B25-0430</a>) which applies to Registered Nurses (RNs) and Licensed Practical Nurses (LPNs).</li> <li>A hearing was held for the Occupational Therapy and Counseling Compacts on <a href="#">December 7<sup>th</sup></a>. During the hearing, the Council heard testimony from public witnesses, including local advocacy organizations. DC Health testified on both testimonies and expressed support for increased licensure portability. However, DC Health did also raise some concerns with joining each of the compacts.</li> </ul> <p><b>Health Professional Licensing Boards Residency Requirement Amendment Act of 2023:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Councilmembers Henderson and Parker introduced the <i>Health Professional Licensing Boards Residency Requirement Amendment Act of 2023</i> (<a href="#">B25-0312</a>) on June 2, 2023. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This legislation would permit non-District residents to serve on health professional licensing boards.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ There would be restrictions, including that the Board Chair and Consumer Members would continue to need to be District residents and no more than 50% of the Board could be made up of non-District residents.</li> <li>▪ This bill received a hearing on <a href="#">July 13, 2023</a>. DC Health testified during this hearing and expressed support for the need for innovative solutions to fill board vacancies and offered some changes to the bill. It was voted out of the Committee on Health during a markup on <a href="#">September 26<sup>th</sup></a> and was passed on first reading by the Committee of the Whole on October 3<sup>rd</sup>.</li> <li>▪ The bill passed on final reading on November 7<sup>th</sup> and was signed by the Mayor on November 21<sup>st</sup>. It is now undergoing Congressional Review.</li> </ul> <p><b>DC Health Director Appointment:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ On June 8<sup>th</sup>, Mayor Bowser <a href="#">announced</a> the appointment of Dr. Ayanna Bennett as DC Health Acting Director. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Dr. Bennett is a healthcare and public health executive with more than 20 years of experience in clinical practice, clinical service design, system integration, and quality improvement. Dr. Bennett most recently served as Chief Health Equity Officer and Director of the San Francisco Department of Public Health’s Office of Health Equity.</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ The Committee on Health held a confirmation hearing on <a href="#">October 5<sup>th</sup></a>. During the roundtable, Acting Director Bennett expressed her eagerness and excitement to take on the role, highlighting her qualifications for the position. The hearing also included testimonies from members of the public who voiced their support for the new director and discussed the key issues they hope the Director will prioritize.</li> <li>▪ Acting Director Bennett’s nomination was unanimously voted out of the Committee on Health and was then unanimously approved by the entire Council on November 7<sup>th</sup>.</li> </ul> <p><b>Health Occupations Revision Act (HORA) Update:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ DC Health worked on a significant revision of the HORA. This would be the first significant revision in seventeen years.</li> <li>▪ The revised HORA received Mayoral approval and has been introduced in the Council as the <i>Health Occupations Revision General Amendment Act of 2023</i> (<a href="#">B25-0545</a>).</li> <li>▪ This legislation received a hearing on <a href="#">December 7<sup>th</sup></a>. Over 80 witnesses, many of whom were healthcare professionals, signed up to provide testimony. DC Health’s Associate Director of Health Professional Licensing Boards provided testimony in support and answered questions from the Council.</li> </ul> <p><b>DC Health Social Media Handles:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Facebook:</b> <a href="#">@dchealth</a></li> <li>• <b>Twitter:</b> <a href="#">@_DcHealth</a></li> <li>• <b>TikTok:</b> <a href="#">@dchealth</a></li> <li>• <b>Instagram:</b> <a href="#">@dchealth</a></li> </ul>	
OS-1223-04	<p><b>BOARD ATTORNEY’S REPORT:</b> <b>Health Professional Licensing Boards Residency Requirement Amendment Act of 2023:</b> Ms. Drozdoski reports:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Health Occupations Revision Act (HORA) hearing on December 7, 2023.</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Health Professional Residency Bill has been passed and is now undergoing congressional review. It is expected to become a law by February 7th, 2024.</li> </ul>	
OS-1223-05	<p><b><u>BOARD CHAIR'S REPORT:</u></b> <b>No Report</b></p>	
OS-1223-06	<p><b><u>OPEN SESSION MINUTES:</u></b> <b>Board Action:</b> Consideration of the Open Session minutes from the September 8, 2023, meeting. <b>Motion:</b> Motion made by Mr. Bond to accept the September 8, 2023; Open Session minutes as written. Seconded by Dr. Rai. <b>Vote:</b> Dr. Rai and Mr. Bond, voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously</p>	
OS-1223-07	<p><b><u>Barber's Driving School CEU</u></b> <b>Board Action:</b> Review and determine whether to approve Barber's Driving School course Clinical Driver Evaluations for ten (10) CEUs. <b>Background:</b> This introductory/ Intermediate level course for physical therapist uses models as a unique collaborative approach to the delivery of driver services that fall within the spectrum of driver services. <b>No Motion Made</b></p>	
OS-1223-08	<p><b><u>Breathing and Postural Control Part 1 and 2</u></b> <b>Board Action:</b> The Board is to determine whether to approve the Breathing and Postural Control Part 1 for 8 contact hours and Part 2 for 13 contact hours. <b>Background:</b> This course proposes a new definition of "core stability," redefining it as the dynamic control of trunk pressures to optimize postural stability (balance). Part 1 lays foundational information and presents numerous quick interventions utilizing positioning and ventilatory strategies. Clinical cases will be used throughout the day to illustrate concepts. The course applies to any pediatric or adult patient (or therapist) breathes! Participants are encouraged to follow up later with "LINKED Part-2," a two-day in-person lab course, assessing "normal" breathing patterns, learning neuromotor retraining techniques, and learning manual assistive cough techniques. <b>No Motion Made</b></p>	
OS-1223-08	<p><b><u>Administrative Fee Schedule and Standard Fines</u></b> <b>Board Action:</b> The Board will review the assessment and fee schedule to determine the associated fees and ascertain whether any further adjustments to the fee schedule are necessary. <b>Background:</b> The Board conducted a review of the Administrative Fee Schedule and Standard Fines. The Board staff are requesting the Board review and make any necessary revisions to the schedule. <b>Table until next meeting</b></p>	
OS-1223-09	<p><b><u>MOTION TO CLOSE</u></b> <b>Board Action:</b></p>	

	<p>To go into closed session to discuss confidential matters as permitted in DC Official Code § 2-575(b).</p> <p><b>Background:</b> Upon conclusion of the open session meeting pursuant to the DC Official Code 2-575(b) and for the purposes set forth therein, the Board will move into the closed executive session portion of the meeting to consult with the Board attorney, discuss disciplinary matters and hear reports concerning violations of the law or regulations.</p> <p><b>The Open Session Agenda continues the next page with 'Motion to Adjourn'. The next meeting is scheduled for March 18, 2024. (*In-Person)</b></p>
OS-1223-10	<p><b>MOTION TO ADJOURN</b></p> <p><b>Board Action:</b> To adjourn the meeting.</p> <p><b>Background:</b> At the end of every meeting, a motion to adjourn must be made in open session to close out the business of the Board.</p> <p><b>Motion:</b> Motion made by Mr. Bond to close the September 18, 2023, Open Session at 3:10pm. Seconded by Dr. Rai.</p> <p><b>Vote:</b> Dr. Rai and Mr. Bond, voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p>

*This meeting is governed by the Open Meetings Act. Please address any questions or complaints arising under this meeting to the Office of Open Government at [opengovoffice@dc.gov](mailto:opengovoffice@dc.gov).*

**FYI**

FYI-1223-01	<p><b><u>Dance and Recreation Therapy Renews</u></b></p> <p><b>Background:</b> Dance and Recreation Therapy renewal cycle is live. The Board now requires Dance and Recreation therapist to complete two (2) CEUs in LGBTQ and one (1) CEU in Public Health Priorities each renewal cycle.</p>
FYI-1223-02	<p><b><u>Administrative Fee Schedule and Standard Fines</u></b></p> <p><b>Update:</b> The Board will be reviewing the Administrative Fee Schedule and Standard Fines for occupational therapist, occupational therapist assistant, recreational therapist and dance therapist at the next scheduled meeting in March of 2024. The Board staff requested the Board review and make any necessary revisions to the schedule.</p>
FYI-1223-03	<p><b><u>Endorsement and Reciprocity Pathway</u></b></p> <p>At the next scheduled meeting in March of 2024. the Board exploring different license types and license type pathways for licensure. The agency is looking to modify the endorsement license requirements and investigate the possibility of reciprocity pathways with Maryland and Virginia.</p>