

Date of Hearing: May 6, 2026

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Buffy Wicks, Chair

AB 2773 (Committee on Business and Professions) – As Amended April 22, 2026

Policy Committee: Business and Professions

Vote: 19 - 0

Urgency: No

State Mandated Local Program: No

Reimbursable: No

SUMMARY:

This bill extends the sunset date for the California Board of Occupational Therapy (CBOT) until January 1, 2031, requires CBOT to establish certain fees, recognizes additional pathways for satisfying fieldwork requirements for license application, and makes other technical changes and statutory improvements in response to issues raised during the sunset review process.

Specifically, this bill:

- 1) Requires that the limited permit fee not exceed \$125.
- 2) Establishes the following additional fees: a pocket card fee, not to exceed \$50; a duplicate wall certificate fee, not to exceed \$50; and a fee for a letter of good standing, endorsements, or verification of licensure; not to exceed \$50.
- 3) Specifies that supervised fieldwork requirements for licensure must be arranged by an American Occupational Therapy Association's Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE)-accredited institution.
- 4) Authorizes any person completing a supervised entry-level doctoral capstone experience to practice occupational therapy as part of the requirements for obtaining their occupational therapy doctorate from an ACOTE-accredited institution.
- 5) On or before July 1, 2027, requires applicants and licensees to provide a current email address to the CBOT if they have one, and to notify the CBOT of any changes to their email address within 30 days; requires the CBOT to remind licensees of their obligation to report their email address with each renewal application.
- 6) Requires the CBOT meet at least three times a year, with at least one meeting in northern California and one in southern California.
- 7) Extends the sunset date for the CBOT to January 1, 2031.

FISCAL EFFECT:

Annual costs of approximately \$4.4 million in fiscal year (FY) 2026-27 and ongoing to extend the operation of the CBOT (Occupational Therapy Fund).

If CBOT raises fees to their statutory limits, which will require CBOT to promulgate regulations, revenues will increase by up to \$23,000 per year (Occupational Therapy Fund).

The Office of Information Services estimates absorbable information technology costs of \$2,000 to implement a mandatory field within the online licensing and enforcement system to add licensees' email addresses.

COMMENTS:

- 1) **Purpose.** This bill is the sunset review vehicle for the CBOT, authored by the Assembly Business and Professions Committee. The bill extends the sunset date for the Board and enacts technical changes, statutory improvements, and policy reforms in response to issues raised during the CBOT's sunset review oversight process.

- 2) **Background.** As part of the CBOT's sunset review, the CBOT's staff, stakeholders, and legislative committees raised issues to address. These issues were first outlined in the CBOT's "Sunset Review Report 2026" submitted to the Legislature in January. Subsequently, as part of the Joint Sunset hearings conducted by the Assembly Committee on Business and Professions and the Senate Business, Professions and Economic Development Committee, committee staff published background papers highlighting recommendations to the CBOT regarding issues raised in their report. The CBOT is expected to provide the committees with formal responses to these recommendations by April 24, 2026, including recommended statutory revisions. In the meantime, this bill addresses certain issues discussed in the report and oversight hearing, while some remain in active deliberation between the CBOT and stakeholders.

This bill addresses the following issues related to the administration, composition, and enforcement capabilities of the Board: Fee authority, doctoral capstone experience, licensee emails, technical cleanup, and continuation of the CBOT.

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