

ASSEMBLY THIRD READING
AB 2773 (Committee on Business and Professions)
As Amended April 22, 2026
Majority vote

SUMMARY

Extends the sunset date for the California Board of Occupation Therapy (CBOT or Board) until January 1, 2031, establishes the CBOT's authority to charge 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.

Major Provisions

- 1) Requires that the limited permit fee not exceed \$125.
- 2) Establishes the following additional fees:
 - a) A pocket card fee not to exceed \$50.
 - b) A duplicate wall certificate fee not to exceed \$50.
 - c) 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 ACOTE-accredited institution.
- 4) Authorizes any person completing a supervised entry-level doctoral capstone experience as part of the requirements for obtaining an occupational therapy doctorate degree from an ACOTE-accredited educational institution to practice occupational therapy.
- 5) Requires that applicants for licensure successfully complete a supervised entry-level doctoral capstone experience arranged by an ACOTE-accredited educational institution where the applicant has met their academic requirements.
- 6) 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.
- 7) Specifies that the CBOT shall meet at least three times a year, and that at least one meeting shall be in northern California and one shall be in southern California.
- 8) Extends the sunset date for the CBOT to January 1, 2031.
- 9) Makes technical changes to the Act, including adding gender-neutral language.

COMMENTS

Background. Each year, the Assembly Committee on Business and Professions and the Senate Committee on Business, Professions and Economic Development hold joint sunset review oversight hearings to review the licensing boards under the DCA. The DCA boards are responsible for protecting consumers and the public and regulating the professionals they license. The sunset review process provides an opportunity for the Legislature, DCA, boards, and stakeholders to discuss the performance of the boards and make recommendations for improvements.

Each board subject to review has an enacting statute that has a repeal date, which means each board requires an extension before the repeal date. This bill is one of the "sunset" bills that are intended to extend the repeal date of the boards undergoing sunset review, as well as include the recommendations from the sunset review oversight hearings.

This year, there are five sunset review bills authored by the Assembly Committee on Business and Professions and five sunset review bills authored by the Chair of the Senate Business, Professions and Economic Development Committee.

Sunset Review. As part of the CBOT's sunset review, a number of issues and priorities were raised by the board staff, stakeholders, and legislative committees. 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. This bill addresses some of the issues discussed during the sunset review process so far, while others remain in active deliberation between the CBOT and stakeholders. For further detail on the most recent issues, please refer to the policy committee analysis.

According to the Author

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 Board's sunset review oversight process.

Arguments in Support

The *Occupational Therapy Association of California (OTAC)* writes, "OT practitioners are licensed and regulated by the [CBOT] and OTAC appreciates the role of the Board in oversight and enforcement of OT clinicians and the Occupational Therapy Practice Act."

Arguments in Opposition

None on file

FISCAL COMMENTS

According to the Assembly Appropriations Committee, 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.

VOTES

ASM BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONS: 19-0-0

YES: Berman, Johnson, Addis, Ahrens, Alanis, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Caloza, Chen, Elhawary, Hadwick, Haney, Hart, Irwin, Jackson, Lowenthal, Macedo, Nguyen, Pellerin

ASM APPROPRIATIONS: 14-0-1

YES: Wicks, Hoover, Aguiar-Curry, Calderon, Caloza, Dixon, Fong, Mark González, Krell, Pacheco, Pellerin, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Tangipa

ABS, ABST OR NV: Ta

UPDATED

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