

**First Regular Session
Seventy-fifth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO**

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 25-0629.01 Renee Leone x2695

HOUSE BILL 25-1016

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Stewart K.,

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Michaelson Jenet,

House Committees
Health & Human Services

Senate Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING AUTHORIZING AN OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST TO**
102 **PRESCRIBE DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT.**

Bill Summary

(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://leg.colorado.gov>.)

The bill authorizes an occupational therapist to directly recommend or prescribe durable medical equipment to a patient without requesting the prescription from a licensed physician.

1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing law.
Dashes through the words or numbers indicate deletions from existing law.

1 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-270-104, **amend**
2 (10) introductory portion; and **add** (10)(d) as follows:

3 **12-270-104. Definitions - rules.** As used in this article 270, unless
4 the context otherwise requires:

5 (10) "Occupational therapy" means the therapeutic use of
6 occupations, including everyday life activities with individuals, groups,
7 populations, or organizations, to support participation, performance, and
8 function in roles and situations in home, school, workplace, community,
9 and other settings. Occupational therapy is provided for habilitation,
10 rehabilitation, and the promotion of health and wellness to ~~persons~~
11 INDIVIDUALS who have, or are at risk for developing, an illness, injury,
12 disease, disorder, condition, impairment, disability, activity limitation, or
13 participation restriction. Occupational therapy uses everyday life activities
14 to promote mental health and support functioning in ~~people~~ INDIVIDUALS
15 who have, or who are at risk of experiencing, a range of mental health
16 disorders, including psychiatric, behavioral, emotional, and substance use
17 disorders. Occupational therapy addresses the physical, cognitive,
18 psychosocial, sensory, perceptual, and other aspects of performance in a
19 variety of contexts and environments to support engagement in
20 occupations that affect physical health, mental health, well-being, and
21 quality of life. The practice of occupational therapy includes:

22 (d) THE AUTHORITY TO DIRECTLY RECOMMEND AND PRESCRIBE
23 DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT TO A PATIENT WITHOUT REQUESTING THE
24 PRESCRIPTION FROM A LICENSED PHYSICIAN.

25 **SECTION 2. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act
26 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the
27 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly; except

1 that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V
2 of the state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this
3 act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take
4 effect unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in
5 November 2026 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the
6 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.