

Senate Executive Departments and Administration Committee

Chantell Wheeler 271-1403

HB 1446-FN, relative to the governing board of recreational therapists and relative to the governing board of respiratory care practitioners.

Hearing Date: March 23, 2022

Members of the Committee Present: Senators Carson, Reagan, Ricciardi, Cavanaugh and Prentiss

Members of the Committee Absent : None

Bill Analysis: This bill converts the governing boards of recreational therapists and respiratory care practitioners to advisory boards under the authority of the executive director of the office of professional licensure and certification.

This bill is a request of the office of professional licensure and certification.

Sponsors:

Rep. Schuett

Rep. McGuire

Who supports the bill: Rep. Schuett, Rep. McGuire, Joe Shoemaker and Lindsey Courtney, Office of Professional Licensure (OPLC)

Who opposes the bill: None

Who is neutral on the bill: None

Summary of testimony presented in support:

Rep. McGuire:

- Rep. McGuire introduced the bill as requested by OPLC to convert some of the smaller boards to advisory boards rather than regulatory boards.
- These boards have small numbers in the profession and they have a hard time finding members and meeting regularly.
- The House amended the bill to specify the areas where OPLC has oversight, which is largely administrative.
- The advisory boards are focused on the technical and professional areas.
- This bill also adds an alternate to the boards.

Senator Carson asked how the transfer of duties will happen.

Rep. McGuire explained that administrative board functions were transferred to OPLC a few years ago when OPLC was formed.

Sen. Carson asked how many individuals are impacted. **Rep. McGuire** deferred to a later speaker to answer.

Joe Shoemaker, OPLC

- These 2 boards have not been able to meet in roughly 7-8 months due to quorum issues.
- There is a statute that states that if a licensee application does not go to the board within 60-days, the person is automatically licensed.

Summary of testimony presented in opposition: None

Neutral Information Presented: None

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Date Hearing Report completed: March 24, 2022