
**Consumer Protection & Business
Committee**

HB 1082

Brief Description: Expanding opportunities for physical therapy and occupational therapy professionals to form professional service corporations.

Sponsors: Representatives Simmons, Jacobsen, Goodman, Springer, Santos and Ormsby.

Brief Summary of Bill

- Permits physical therapists and occupational therapists to share an ownership interest in a health care practice with other health care professionals, rather than only within their scope of practice.

Hearing Date: 1/18/23

Staff: Megan Mulvihill (786-7304).

Background:

Professional service corporations are a corporate structure under state law which is comprised of a specific group of professionals, and only those who are licensed to practice the same profession may be owners of the professional service corporation. In Washington, professionals licensed to provide a particular health care service may form and practice through a professional health service corporation or professional limited liability company. Additionally, a group of professionals licensed to practice a number of different health care services may combine to form and practice their services through a single professional service corporation or professional limited liability company. However, they may engage only in the health care services for which they are licensed.

Occupational therapists and physical therapists are licensed by the Department of Health to

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provide occupational therapy and physical therapy respectively. These professions are authorized to own stock in and jointly form or practice through a single professional service corporation or professional limited liability company for the sole purpose of providing professional services within their respective scope of practice. Physical therapists and occupational therapists are not permitted to join a professional service corporation with other health care professions.

Summary of Bill:

Physical therapists and occupational therapists may own stock in and render their individual professional services through a professional service corporation with other health care professionals.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of the session in which the bill is passed.