

March 14, 2005

H 613. UPDATE CERTIFICATION/LICENSURE/REC. THERAPY. TO UPDATE THE LAWS REGULATING THE PRACTICE OF RECREATIONAL THERAPY. Rewrites GS Chapter 90C, changing the name from "Therapeutic Recreation Personnel Certification Act" to "North Carolina Recreational Therapy Licensure Act." "Recreational therapy" terminology is added throughout. The following are the major substantive changes: the membership of the Recreational Therapy Licensure Board (Board) is increased from seven to eight members by adding a physician appointed by the Governor. Act clarifies Board's authority to establish competency requirements for licensure, including examinations and continuing education. Revises education and experience requirements for licensure effective January 30, 2006, with transitional grandfather provisions for currently certified practitioners through January 30, 2008. Increases maximum licensure application fee from \$50 to \$200 and maximum renewal fee from \$35 to \$200. Deletes \$25 reinstatement fee and \$10 certificate replacement fee and adds new maximum record maintenance fee of \$100 and inactive fee of \$50. Reduces from 5 to 2 the number of years a practitioner's license may lapse before the Board will require applicant to demonstrate competency to support reinstatement. Clarifies that recreational therapy license requirement does not apply to (1) incidental work by another licensed professional, (2) federal employees, or (3) students pursuing a degree in recreational therapy and fulfilling supervised fieldwork requirements. Makes violation of article a misdemeanor and sets minimum penalty at \$100 and increases maximum imprisonment from 60 days to 6 months. Effective October 1, 2005, with transitional provisions for current board members and practitioners.

Intro. by Harrell, Womble.

Ref. to Finance

GS 90C

May 18, 2005

H 613. UPDATE CERTIFICATION/LICENSURE/REC. THERAPY. Intro. 5/17/05. House committee substitute makes the following changes to 1st edition. Modifies proposed new sections of GS Chapter 90C to delete licensing requirements that would have applied to all new applicants for licensure effective January 30, 2006, and to apply the licensing requirements applicable to individuals currently practicing as recreational therapists or therapy assistants to any person seeking licensure. Also clarifies that it is a Class 1 misdemeanor to practice physical therapy without a license (was, a misdemeanor to violate Article) and removes minimum penalty of \$100. Provides that individuals currently holding a State certification will be exempt from the new licensing requirement of act if they apply to the Board for licensure before January 15, 2008 (was, January 30, 2008), and meet other requirements specified in act.

August 10, 2005

H 613. UPDATE CERTIFICATION/LICENSURE/REC. THERAPY. Intro. 3/14/05. Senate committee substitute makes the following changes to 2nd edition. Changes effective date from October 1, 2005, to October 5, 2005. Makes technical changes.

September 9, 2005

SL 2005-378 (H 613). UPDATE CERTIFICATION/LICENSURE/REC. THERAPY. AN ACT TO UPDATE THE LAWS REGULATING THE PRACTICE OF RECREATIONAL THERAPY. Summarized in *Daily Bulletin* 3/14/05, 5/18/05 and 8/10/05. Enacted September 8, 2005. Effective October 5, 2005.