

HOUSE BILL 208: Occup. Therapy/Choice of Provider.

2017-2018 General Assembly

| Committee: | House Insurance | Date: | March 28, 2017 |
|----------------|---|--------------|-------------------|
| Introduced by: | Reps. Blackwell, Murphy, Setzer, Hurley | Prepared by: | Jason Moran-Bates |
| Analysis of: | First Edition | | Staff Attorney |

OVERVIEW: House Bill 208 would amend G.S. 58-50-30 to allow insureds to receive insurancecovered occupational therapy from the licensed occupational therapist of their choice.

[As introduced, this bill was identical to S307, as introduced by Sens. Newton, Krawiec, which is currently in the Committee on Rules and Operations of the Senate.]

CURRENT LAW: G.S. 58-50-30 requires insurers to pay for services rendered by certain, defined health care providers chosen by the insured, regardless of any limitations in the insurance contract between the parties.

BILL ANALYSIS: House Bill 208 would add licensed occupational therapists to the list of providers in G.S. 58-50-30(b). This change would allow insureds to see the occupational therapist of their choice and still have their insurers provide coverage.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This act becomes effective October 1, 2017, and applies to health benefits contracts issued, renewed, or amended on or after that date.

Karen Cochrane-Brown Director



Legislative Analysis Division 919-733-2578

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