

## **HOUSE BILL 208:** Occupational Therapy Choice of Provider.

2017-2018 General Assembly

Committee: July 18, 2017
Introduced by: Prepared by: Jason Moran-Bates

Analysis of: S.L. 2017-24 Staff Attorney

OVERVIEW: S.L. 2017-24 amends G.S. 58-50-30 to allow insureds to receive insurance-covered occupational therapy from the licensed occupational therapist of their choice.

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

**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:** S.L. 2017-24 adds licensed occupational therapists to the list of providers in G.S. 58-50-30(b). This change allows 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