



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

2017-2018 General Assembly

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<b>Committee:</b>	Senate Commerce and Insurance	<b>Date:</b>	May 17, 2017
<b>Introduced by:</b>	Reps. Blackwell, Murphy, Setzer, Hurley	<b>Prepared by:</b>	Kristen L. Harris
<b>Analysis of:</b>	First Edition		Committee Co-Counsel

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**OVERVIEW:** *House Bill 208 would amend G.S. 58-50-30 to allow insureds to receive insurance-covered 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 Senate Committee on Commerce and Insurance.]

**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.

\*Staff attorney Jason Moran-Bates substantially contributed to this summary.

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