

Government Affairs Committee

OTAC actively monitored more than 50 health care related legislative bills in the 2009 legislative session, attended every CBOT board meeting and personally met with important leaders in the legislature.



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10/17/09

What is the Government Affairs Committee (GAC)?

The GAC is a standing OTAC committee with the purpose of ensuring a proactive and timely response to legislative activity which may impact the practice of occupational therapy in California. The committee is staffed by volunteer OTAC members who collaborate with Capital Advocacy, Inc., OTAC's paid lobbyist, and volunteer to review legislation, provide oral and written testimony, and encourage direct interaction between OTAC members and legislators at the state and local levels.

Why is this important?

To thrive in today's competitive health care market, occupational therapy practitioners need visibility and to exert influence. Policy makers need to know who we are and what we do. They specifically need to know that we are a cost conscious, evidence-based, client-centered profession that produces good outcomes.

Why is this relevant to me?

You are the expert on what you do. You are the one that can deliver a persuasive message to your legislators about the value of occupational therapy as you see it. Communications to government officials from OTAC leadership is powerful, but your individual words and stories are far more compelling and persuasive.

What can I do?

Educate yourself about the issues, join regulatory boards and advocacy groups with interests similar to yours, ask questions, respond to OTAC government affairs alerts, contact your legislators regularly and donate to the OTAC Political Action Committee.