

Government Affairs Committee

Role of a Government Affairs Committee Member

This is a fairly comprehensive list and we understand every member's ability to commit to all items/areas varies. We appreciate any time and resources that you may be able to devote to our government affairs advocacy on behalf of occupational therapy.

Regularly:

- Contact your California legislators so that you have a relationship with them. They need to know that you are an occupational therapy practitioner and that you can be a resource for them. Encourage all of your colleagues to do the same.
- Keep yourself informed on political issues related to your field of interest. This means attending group meetings and reading newsletters and journals outside of occupational therapy. Communicate any important information to the Government Affairs co-chairs and read the information that the committee co-chairs send to you. Encourage this participatory attitude in your colleagues.
- Look for and monitor advisory groups and regulatory groups that affect your practice on a city, county or state level. If you have the motivation and time, work to obtain a position of leadership with these groups or inform OTAC of possible opportunities.
- Respond when we ask you to review legislation for its impact on occupational therapy or to take direct action.

Occasionally:

- Attend a fund raiser or special event. Consider being a coordinator.
- Participate in teleconferences.
- Testify in front of a legislative committee.

Contacts:

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OTAC Regions

Region 1

*Orange/San Bernardino/San
Diego/Imperial/Riverside*

Region 2

Los Angeles

Region 3

*California Coast: Marin to
Ventura*

Region 4

Central Valley/Eastern California

Region 5

*Northstate: San Joaquin to
Oregon border*