



CALL TO ACTION AB 2386

Support the Services Credential for OTs in Public Schools

About the bill. One of OTAC's sponsored bills this legislative session is the **OT and PT School Credential AB 2386**, a joint initiative with the California Physical Therapy Association (CPTA). This bill would direct the Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC) to form a work group to determine any required prerequisites and detail the process to acquire a Services Credential for occupational therapists and physical therapists working in the public schools.

The school credential is important to enhance student outcomes by creating a pathway for OTs and PTs to be in a variety of positions serving the educational system, influencing program design, budget allocations (caseloads and workloads), and personnel management. A credential will reconcile employment status in schools with our level of education, allow professional growth into administrative and leadership positions in schools, and build professional awareness of OT and PT's role in serving the educational system, children, and families. For more details, please see the detailed summary provided.

Bill Update. This bill has now successfully passed through the Assembly Education Committee and is being sent to the Assembly Appropriations Committee. The bill will most likely be heard in the Assembly Appropriations Committee the week of May 21st. *Stay tuned for set hearing date to attend.*

Write a letter. OTAC understands many individuals will not be able to attend this hearing. You may also support this bill by submitting a letter of support to the Chair of the Assembly Appropriations Committee. It is vital to demonstrate as much support as possible for this bill. A template letter and instructions have been provided. **Send letter by Monday, May 21st.**

Submit your letter to Karen Polastri, IOM, Executive Director (execdirec@otaonline.org).

Questions. If you have any questions regarding this bill or the letters, please contact:

Dr. Lisa Test, OTD, OTR/L, OTAC School-Based Practice Sub-Committee Co-Chair (otlat@earthlink.net),

Sabrena McCarley, MBA-SL, OTR/L, Advocacy and Government Affairs Committee Chair (gachr@otaonline.org), or,

Karen Polastri, IOM, Executive Director (execdir@otaonline.org)