

LFC Requester:
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## AGENCY BILL ANALYSIS - 2026 REGULAR SESSION

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*(Analysis must be uploaded as a PDF)*

### **SECTION I: GENERAL INFORMATION**

*{Indicate if analysis is on an original bill, amendment, substitute or a correction of a previous bill}*

**Date Prepared:** 1/18/26 **Bill Number:** HB13 **Original**  **Amendment**  **Substitute**

**Short Title:** OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY LICENSURE COMPACT

**Sponsor:** Rep. Liz Thomson

**Name and Code Number:** HCA 630

**Person Writing:** Kresta Opperman

**Phone:** 505 231-8752 **Email:** kresta.opperman@hca.nm.gov

### **SECTION II: FISCAL IMPACT**

#### **APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)**

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY26	FY27		
\$0.0	\$0.0	NA	NA

(Parenthesis ( ) indicate expenditure decreases)

#### **REVENUE (dollars in thousands)**

Estimated Revenue			Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY26	FY27	FY28		
\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	NA	NA

(Parenthesis ( ) indicate revenue decreases)

**ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)**

	<b>FY26</b>	<b>FY27</b>	<b>FY28</b>	<b>3 Year Total Cost</b>	<b>Recurring or Nonrecurring</b>	<b>Fund Affected</b>
<b>Total</b>	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	NA	NA

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

**SECTION III: NARRATIVE****BILL SUMMARY**

Synopsis: HB12 enacts the Occupational Therapy Licensure Compact into law, amends the Occupational Therapy Act to provide for state and federal criminal background checks, and establishes the Occupational Therapy Compact Commission.

The Commission would be responsible for overseeing the implementation and operation of the compact. The Commission will be charged with working to ensure that the compact is operational and that occupational therapists can practice across state lines with mutual recognition of their licenses.

The Commission shall provide for the development, maintenance and utilization of a coordinated database and reporting system containing licensure, adverse action and investigative information on all licensed individuals in member states

**FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

None for the Health Care Authority (HCA).

**SIGNIFICANT ISSUES**

See Performance Implications below.

**PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS**

This compact allows occupational therapists to provide services across state lines with a home state license. This could increase access to occupational therapy providers in New Mexico. New Mexico currently has a significant and worsening shortage of occupational therapists, which negatively impacts patient access to care. The ability to enter into an occupational therapist compact is an important strategy to help alleviate the shortage of providers.

Providers from compact member states would still be required to enroll as a New Mexico Medicaid provider and follow all applicable NM Medicaid provider requirements to be eligible for reimbursement.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS**

None for the HCA.

## **CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP**

Relates to several other medical and health professional compact bills under consideration in the 2026 Legislative Session.

## **TECHNICAL ISSUES**

None for the HCA.

## **OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES**

None for the HCA.

## **ALTERNATIVES**

None suggested.

## **WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL**

Status quo.

## **AMENDMENTS**

None.