

HOUSE BILL 551

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0lr1769
CF 0lr2818

By: **Delegates Bhandari, Bagnall, Charles, Cullison, Hettleman, Kipke, Rosenberg, and Wilkins**

Introduced and read first time: January 27, 2020

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Health Occupations – Physical Therapists and Physical Therapist Assistants –**
3 **Qualifications**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing a certain educational qualification for an applicant for a
5 physical therapist assistant license who was educated in limited physical therapy
6 outside of any state; altering certain educational qualifications for certain applicants
7 for physical therapy licenses or physical therapist assistant licenses who were
8 educated in any state; making technical and conforming changes; and generally
9 relating to qualifications for physical therapy licenses and physical therapist
10 assistant licenses.

11 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
12 Article – Health Occupations
13 Section 13–303 and 13–304
14 Annotated Code of Maryland
15 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

16 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
17 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

18 **Article – Health Occupations**

19 13–303.

20 (a) If an applicant for a physical therapy license has been educated in physical
21 therapy in any state, the applicant shall have:

22 (1) Graduated from a physical therapy program that, in the year of
23 graduation, was [approved by]:

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (i) [The American Medical Association;

2 (ii) The] **APPROVED BY THE** American Physical Therapy
3 Association; or

4 [(iii)] **(II) [The] ACCREDITED BY THE** Commission on
5 Accreditation [of] **IN** Physical Therapy Education; and

6 (2) Completed satisfactorily the clinical training required by the physical
7 therapy [curriculum] **PROGRAM**.

8 (b) If an applicant for a physical therapy license has been educated in physical
9 therapy outside of any state, the applicant shall have graduated from a physical therapy
10 program that in the year of graduation had educational requirements equivalent to a
11 degree in physical therapy from a United States program accredited by the Commission on
12 Accreditation [of] **IN** Physical Therapy Education.

13 13–304.

14 **(A) [To qualify] IF AN APPLICANT** for a physical therapist assistant license **HAS**
15 **BEEN EDUCATED IN LIMITED PHYSICAL THERAPY IN ANY STATE, [an] THE** applicant
16 shall have:

17 (1) Graduated from a [curriculum for] physical therapist [assistants]
18 **ASSISTANT PROGRAM** that is [approved]:

19 **(I) APPROVED** by the American Physical Therapy Association; **OR**

20 **(II) ACCREDITED BY THE COMMISSION ON ACCREDITATION IN**
21 **PHYSICAL THERAPY EDUCATION**; and

22 (2) Completed satisfactorily the clinical training required by the
23 [curriculum for] physical therapist [assistants] **ASSISTANT PROGRAM**.

24 **(B) IF AN APPLICANT FOR A PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT LICENSE HAS**
25 **BEEN EDUCATED IN LIMITED PHYSICAL THERAPY OUTSIDE OF ANY STATE, THE**
26 **APPLICANT SHALL HAVE GRADUATED FROM A PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT**
27 **PROGRAM THAT IN THE YEAR OF GRADUATION HAS EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS**
28 **EQUIVALENT TO A DEGREE IN LIMITED PHYSICAL THERAPY FROM A PROGRAM IN**
29 **THE UNITED STATES ACCREDITED BY THE COMMISSION ON ACCREDITATION IN**
30 **PHYSICAL THERAPY EDUCATION**.

31 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
32 1, 2020.