



# Maryland Occupational Therapy Association

PO Box 36401, Towson, Maryland 21286 ♦ [mota-members.com](http://mota-members.com)

<b>Committee:</b>	<b>House Health Committee</b>
<b>Bill Number:</b>	<b>House Bill 1527</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Complementary and Alternative Health Care - Practice Authorized (Complementary and Alternative Health Care Practice Act)</b>
<b>Hearing Date:</b>	<b>March 18, 2026</b>
<b>Position:</b>	<b>Oppose</b>

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The Maryland Occupational Therapy Association (MOTA) supports House Bill 1527 - Complementary and Alternative Health Care - Practice Authorized (Complementary and Alternative Health Care Practice Act). This bill authorizes an individual to practice “complementary or alternative health care” without obtaining a license, certification, or other authorization under the Health Occupations Article. A practitioner of complementary or alternative health care must (1) provide every client with specified written notice; (2) obtain signed acknowledgement that the client has received the notice; (3) retain the acknowledgment for at least two years; and (4) provide the client with a copy of the acknowledgment. An individual acting within the scope of a license, certificate, or other authorization under the Health Occupations Article is not subject to these requirements

MOTA opposes the bill because it would allow certain health-related services to be offered without a state professional license. MOTA is concerned that this could weaken licensing systems that ensure providers meet education and training standards. Occupational therapy practitioners are also concerned that unlicensed practitioners might offer services that overlap with rehabilitation or functional therapy, which could confuse patients about who is properly qualified. Another concern is patient safety, since practitioners under the bill may not be subject to the same regulatory oversight as licensed health professionals. Overall, this bill would undermine professional standards and consumer protections in healthcare.

We ask for an unfavorable report. If we can provide any further information, please contact Michael Paddy at [mpaddy@policypartners.net](mailto:mpaddy@policypartners.net).