

AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 15, 2006

AMENDED IN SENATE MARCH 6, 2006

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JANUARY 4, 2006

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2005—06 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 120

Introduced by Assembly Member Cohn
(Principal coauthor: Senator Alquist)

January 13, 2005

An act to amend Section 2684 of, and to add Article 6.5 (commencing with Section 2676) to Chapter 5.7 of Division 2 of, the Business and Professions Code, relating to physical therapy.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 120, as amended, Cohn. Physical therapy: continuing education.

Existing law, the Physical Therapy Practice Act, licenses and regulates the practice of physical therapy by the Physical Therapy Board of California, and establishes educational requirements for licensure *of physical therapists and approval of physical therapist assistants*. Existing law makes a violation of the act's provisions a crime.

This bill would require a person who renews his or her physical therapy license *or approval* to submit proof of completion of continuing education hours or other proof of continuing competency, as established by the board, and would require the board to adopt and administer regulations to ensure continuing competency of licensees. *The bill would also clarify that holders of approvals are required to disclose criminal convictions upon application for renewal.*

Because a violation of this bill’s provisions would be a crime, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: yes.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Article 6.5 (commencing with Section 2676) is
2 added to Chapter 5.7 of Division 2 of the Business and
3 Professions Code, to read:

4

5 Article 6.5. Continuing Education and Competency

6

7 2676. (a) A person renewing his or her license *or approval*
8 shall submit proof satisfactory to the board that, during the
9 preceding two years, he or she has completed the required
10 number of continuing education hours established by regulation
11 by the board, or such other proof of continuing competency as
12 the board may establish by regulation. Required continuing
13 education shall not exceed 30 hours every two years.

14 (b) The board shall adopt and administer regulations
15 including, but not limited to, continuing education, intended to
16 ensure the continuing competency of persons licensed *or*
17 *approved* pursuant to this chapter.

18 SEC. 2. Section 2684 of the Business and Professions Code is
19 amended to read:

20 2684. (a) Notwithstanding Section 2422, any license or
21 approval for the practice of physical therapy shall expire at 12
22 midnight on the last day of the birth month of the licensee or
23 holder of the approval during the second year of a two-year term,
24 if not renewed.

25 (b) To renew an unexpired license or approval, the licensee or
26 the holder of the approval shall, on or before the dates on which
27 it would otherwise expire, apply for renewal on a form prescribed

1 by the board, pay the prescribed renewal fee, and submit proof of
2 the completion of continuing education or competency required
3 by the board pursuant to Article 6.5 (commencing with Section
4 2676). The licensee *or holder of the approval* shall disclose on
5 his or her license renewal application any misdemeanor or other
6 criminal offense for which he or she has been found guilty or to
7 which he or she has pleaded guilty or no contest.

8 (c) A license that has expired may be renewed within five
9 years upon payment of all accrued and unpaid renewal fees and
10 satisfaction of the requirements described in subdivision (b).

11 SEC. 3. No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to
12 Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution because
13 the only costs that may be incurred by a local agency or school
14 district will be incurred because this act creates a new crime or
15 infraction, eliminates a crime or infraction, or changes the
16 penalty for a crime or infraction, within the meaning of Section
17 17556 of the Government Code, or changes the definition of a
18 crime within the meaning of Section 6 of Article XIII B of the
19 California Constitution.