

February 22, 2017

Health and Human Services Reform Chair Joe Schomacker and Committee Members

RE: HF 526 Occupational Therapy Practice Board Created

Dear Chair Schomacker and Committee members:

Fraser is a non-profit health care and disability service provider and Minnesota's most experienced provider of autism services. Our healthcare services include occupational therapy, which is an important component of Fraser's multidisciplinary team approach to healthcare. Fraser employs 29 occupational therapists and trains an average of 7-10 occupational therapists annually.

Our occupational therapist teams are important in helping our clients with motor skills, self-care, and sensory integration resulting in overall improved functioning for individuals.

Our multidisciplinary team functions best when our professionals are supported by a focused and accountable licensing board. A focused and accountable board is one that is able to respond in a timely manner to licensing requests, general questions, and is focused primarily on the practice of occupational therapy. For these reasons Fraser supports HF 526 which would create a separate licensing board for the practice of occupational therapy.

Thank you,

Letty Faller, MS, CCC-SLP Director of Pediatric Therapy