

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS  
ORTHOTICS AND PROSTHETICS BOARD OF EXAMINERS  
PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES  
April 17, 2007  
(Somerset Conference Room, 6th Floor)  
10:00 A.M.**

The meeting of the New Jersey State Orthotics and Prosthetics Board of Examiners was held on April 17, 2007, at the State Office Building at 124 Halsey Street, 6th Floor, Newark, NJ. The meeting was convened in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act with previous notification having been sent to the Secretary of State and the following publications: The Record in Bergen County, The Star Ledger, Camden Courier Post, Trenton Times, Aisling Swift Press of Atlantic City and Asbury Park Press, to advise of the scheduling of this meeting. The meeting was called to order by Executive Director, Laura L. Anderson, at 11:00 A.M.

**OPENING STATEMENT** - Reading of "The Sunshine Law"

**ROLL CALL**

**PRESENT** - Dana Baptista, C.P.(Chair) Via Telephone  
Louis J. Haberman, C.P.O., (Vice-Chair) Via Telephone  
Heikki Uustal, M.D., Via Telephone  
Mildred E. Carlascio, C.O., Via Telephone  
Brooke Artesi, L.O. CPED Via Telephone  
Robert C. Manfredi, Jr., C.P.O. Via Telephone

**ALSO PRESENT** - Deputy Attorney General, Steven Flanzman,  
Deputy Attorney General, Michelle Weiner,  
Executive Director, Laura L. Anderson and  
Recording secretary, Maria Ormeno-Bertorelli

**MINUTES** - THE BOARD, UPON MOTION MADE BY DR. HEIKKI UUSTAL AND SECONDED BY MILDRED E. CARLASCIO, VOTED TO ACCEPT THE MARCH 20 , 2007 PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES AS AMENDED.

The vote was unanimous

The amendments for the March 20, 2007 minutes were as follows:

Board's comments to State Board of Physical Therapy Examiners, readoption with amendments: N.J.A.C 13:39A to read:

The Board, upon motion made by Dr. Uustal and seconded by Brooke Artesi, commented that the Board of Physical Therapy Examiners revise the new proposed regulations exceptions setting out the unauthorized practice to include licensees of the Orthotics & Prosthetics Board of Examiners.

Board's comments to State Board of Chiropractic Examiners, proposed new rule, N.J.A.C. 13:44E-2.15 - Permissible Practice Structure, to read:

The Board, upon motion made by Brooke Artesi and seconded by Mildred Carlascio commented that the Board of Chiropractic Examiners revise the definition of closely allied health care professionals in their proposed new regulations to include the licensees of the Orthotics & Prosthetics Board of Examiners.

**1. LEGISLATION**

## A. SENATE BILLS

### Bill S 2489

The Board reviewed and commented on Senate Bill 2489. This bill provides for religious accommodation regarding admission procedures at licensed health care facilities. This bill provides that a health care facility is prohibited from requiring a patient or family member of a patient to sign admission papers at those time when their religious beliefs prohibit them from signing the papers.

The Board, upon motion made by Robert Manfredi, Jr. and seconded by Dr. Uustal, does not support Senate Bill S-2489, due to the lack of clarity regarding the patient's consent to accept treatment from the hospital and its staff. An individual who is prohibited from physically signing consent agreements (admission papers) due to religious reasons/holiday should still give verbal consent before a witness and a hospital representative. The patient should be required to then physically sign the documents at the earliest opportunity.

## B. PERIODIC REPORT ON LEGISLATION

The Board reviewed a report received from Burt Liebman, Legislation, showing the history of bills on which the Board was asked to comment for legislative action taken during the quarter that ended on March 31, 2007.

The Board considered this material as informational.

## 2. BOARD ELECTIONS

Tabled

## 3. APPLICATIONS REVIEW

The Board reviewed and approved the following applications for licensure:

Sosky, Steven

At 11:10 A.M., the Board, upon a motion made by Mildred E. Carlascio and seconded by Dr. Heikki Uustal, voted to move into Executive Session to consider and review consumer complaints, investigative reports and other information received pursuant to the Board's regulations. The results of these deliberations will be made known when and if the Board determines to initiate disciplinary or other enforcement action. If the Board determines to issue any sanction, that disciplinary action will be taken in a public session immediately after the session.

The meeting was close and adjourned at 11:40 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura L. Anderson  
Executive Director