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In accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act, R.I. Gen. Laws Section 42-35-3(a)(1), the following is a concise statement regarding this rulemaking for Occupational Therapists and Occupational Therapy Assistants (216-RICR-40-05-12).

This amendment to the regulations creates an Authority section, implements Secretary of State definitional requirements, removes statutory reiteration and superfluous language, removes notarization/photograph requirements for applications, adds the Rhode Island Occupational Therapy Association and National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy to the list of organizations that can offer continuing education, and revises Category II continuing education credits.

During public comment, it was suggested that the regulations be revised to create a fifth category of continuing education for competence assessment or knowledge/skills assessment activities completed online or in-person. RIDOH has determined that this suggested revision will not be implemented because the proposed activities could fall within the existing four categories of continuing education under § 12.7(E)(1).

In the development of this rule, consideration was given to: 1) alternative approaches; 2) overlap or duplication with other statutory and regulatory provisions; and 3) significant economic impact on small business. No alternative approach, duplication, or overlap was identified based on available information. RIDOH has determined that the benefits of this rule justify its costs.