



American Therapeutic Recreation Association

founded in 1984

NEWS RELEASE

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North Carolina Recreational Therapy Licensure Act Passes

(Alexandria, VA) The American Therapeutic Recreation Association is excited to announce the successful achievement of another milestone recognition for the recreational therapy profession. The North Carolina Recreational Therapy Licensure Act passed in The General Assembly of North Carolina and became effective October 5, 2005.

With the passage of the North Carolina Recreational Therapy Licensure Act, recreational therapists in both Utah and North Carolina are required to be licensed to provide recreational therapy services. Several other states have registration or certification programs for recreational therapy professionals in addition to the national certification provided by the National Council for Therapeutic Recreation Certification (NCTRC). NCTRC is the nationally recognized credentialing organization for the profession of therapeutic recreation.

ATRA President, Dr. Bryan McCormick shared, "This is a huge victory for the clients in North Carolina that will be assured greater access and higher quality recreational therapy services." From North Carolina, ATRA member and past president, Thomas K. Skalko, Ph.D., stated, "This is a milestone for recreational therapy in NC and a contemporary starting point for the field nationally."

According to ATRA's Executive Director, Ann Huston, "Recognition of the therapeutic recreation profession can be valuable to the public interest and the protection of consumers of services." For more information, please contact the ATRA National Office at (703) 683-9420 or at www.atra-tr.org.

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The American Therapeutic Recreation Association (ATRA) was founded in 1984 to advance the profession of therapeutic recreation. ATRA is a non-profit, professional membership organization dedicating 100% of resources and efforts to promote therapeutic recreation professionals in health care and human service settings. For more information, please contact the ATRA National Office.