

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2025

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2

HOUSE BILL 122
Committee Substitute Favorable 5/13/26

Short Title: North Carolina Board of Integrative Therapies.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

February 17, 2025

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE NORTH CAROLINA BOARD OF INTEGRATIVE
3 THERAPIES AND TO CREATE LICENSURE PROCESSES FOR ART THERAPISTS
4 AND MUSIC THERAPISTS.

5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6 **SECTION 1.** Chapter 90 of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new Article
7 to read:

8 "Article 44.

9 "Integrative Therapies.

10 "Part 1. North Carolina Board of Integrative Therapies.

11 **"§ 90-750.1. Title and purpose.**

12 (a) This Article shall be known and may be cited as the "North Carolina Integrative
13 Therapies Act."

14 (b) The North Carolina Integrative Therapies Act is established to safeguard the public
15 health, safety, and welfare; to protect the public from being harmed by unqualified persons; to
16 assure the highest degree of professional services and conduct on the part of practitioners of the
17 integrative therapies; to provide for the establishment of licensure requirements; and to ensure
18 the availability of integrative therapies services of high quality to persons in need of such
19 services.

20 **"§ 90-750.2. Definitions.**

21 The following definitions apply in this Article:

- 22 (1) Advisory committee. – A committee charged with supervising the day-to-day
23 regulation of an integrative therapy profession. Advisory committees shall
24 screen applicants for licensure and conduct all investigations necessary to give
25 recommendations to the Board.
- 26 (2) Board. – The North Carolina Board of Integrative Therapies, as established
27 pursuant to G.S. 90-750.3.
- 28 (3) Integrative therapies. – The use of allopathic, complementary, or integrative
29 approaches to the art and science of medicine for the prevention,
30 identification, and treatment of human physical or mental conditions, diseases,
31 ailments, illnesses, infirmities, pain, defects, or injuries and the promotion and
32 restoration of health and wellness.
- 33 (4) Integrative therapies profession. – Any of the professions listed in
34 G.S. 90-750.8.
- 35 (5) North Carolina Integrative Therapies License. – A license in an integrative
36 therapy profession issued pursuant to this Article.



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1 "§ 90-750.3. North Carolina Board of Integrative Therapies; composition; terms;
2 compensation.

3 (a) Establishment. – The North Carolina Board of Integrative Therapies is hereby created.
4 The Board shall consist of the following members appointed to three-year terms as follows:

5 (1) One art therapist appointed by the General Assembly upon the
6 recommendation of the President Pro Tempore of the Senate.

7 (2) One music therapist appointed by the Speaker of the House of
8 Representatives.

9 (3) One art therapist appointed by the Governor.

10 (4) One music therapist appointed by the Governor.

11 (5) Two physicians licensed under Article 1 of this Chapter who have experience
12 with integrative therapies appointed by the Governor.

13 (6) One member of the public appointed by the Governor.

14 (b) Vacancies. – Any vacancies on the Board shall be filled by the appointing authority
15 as provided in subsection (a) of this section, except that any vacancy in appointments by the
16 General Assembly shall be filled in accordance with G.S. 120-122. Individuals appointed to fill
17 vacancies shall serve until the normal expiration of the term they were appointed to fill.

18 (c) Qualifications. –

19 (1) All members appointed to the Board shall be citizens of the United States and
20 residents of the State of North Carolina.

21 (2) All members appointed to the Board, except for the physicians appointed by
22 the Governor under subdivision (5) of subsection (a) of this section and the
23 public member appointed by the Governor under subdivision (6) of subsection
24 (a) of this section, shall be required to hold a North Carolina Integrative
25 Therapies License in their respective profession and remain in good standing
26 for the duration of their terms.

27 (3) Public members of the Board shall not be:

28 a. An agent or employee trained or experienced in the practice of
29 integrative therapies.

30 b. An agent or employee of a person engaged in the practice of
31 integrative therapies.

32 c. A spouse of an individual licensed pursuant to this Article.

33 d. Any person with significant financial interest in a health service or
34 profession.

35 (d) New Integrative Therapies Professions. – Any integrative therapies professions
36 created after July 1, 2026, shall have two members on the Board, both of whom shall serve
37 three-year terms. One of these members shall be appointed by the Governor. The second member
38 shall be appointed by the General Assembly. The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall
39 make a recommendation to be approved by the General Assembly for the first term, and the
40 President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall make a recommendation to be approved by the General
41 Assembly for the second term. The Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President
42 Pro Tempore of the Senate shall thereafter alternate recommendations for subsequent terms.

43 (e) Removal. – The Board may remove any of its members for neglect of duty,
44 incompetence, or unprofessional conduct. A member subject to disciplinary proceedings as a
45 licensed integrative therapies professional shall be disqualified from participating in the official
46 business of the Board until the charges have been resolved. Any member of the Board may be
47 removed from office by the Governor for good cause shown.

48 (f) Compensation of Members; Meetings. – A Board member may not receive
49 compensation but may receive reimbursement as provided in G.S. 93B-5. The officers of the
50 Board shall include a chair, a secretary, and any other officers deemed necessary by the Board to
51 carry out the purposes of this Article. All officers shall be elected annually by the Board at its

1 first meeting held after appointments to the Board are made. The Board shall hold a meeting
2 within 45 days after the appointment of new Board members. All officers shall serve one-year
3 terms and shall serve until their successors are elected and qualified. No person shall chair the
4 Board for more than five consecutive years. The Board may adopt rules governing the calling,
5 holding, and conducting of regular and special meetings. A majority of Board members present
6 and voting constitutes a quorum, and no action may be taken without a quorum.

7 **"§ 90-750.4. Powers of the Board.**

8 The Board shall have the following powers and duties:

- 9 (1) Administer, coordinate, and enforce the provisions of this Article.
- 10 (2) Adopt, amend, or repeal rules necessary to conduct its business, carry out its
11 duties, and administer this Article.
- 12 (3) Appoint and maintain advisory committees to fulfill the daily regulation of
13 integrative therapies professions.
- 14 (4) Issue, renew, deny, suspend, or revoke Integrative Therapies Licenses, order
15 probation, issue reprimands, and conduct any disciplinary actions authorized
16 by this Article.
- 17 (5) Authorize expenditures deemed necessary to carry out the provisions of this
18 Article from fees paid to the Board pursuant to this Article.
- 19 (6) Remit to advisory committees funds sufficient for those advisory committees
20 to carry out their duties.
- 21 (7) Conduct investigations for the purpose of discovering violations of this Article
22 or grounds for disciplinary actions.
- 23 (8) Conduct any administrative hearings necessary for the administration of this
24 Article, including disciplinary hearings to enforce the provisions of this
25 Article.
- 26 (9) Establish fees as necessary for the administration of this Article.

27 **"§ 90-750.5. Expenses and fees.**

28 (a) All fees shall be payable to and deposited in the name of the Board in financial
29 institutions designated by the Board as official depositories. These fees shall be used to carry out
30 the purposes of this Article.

31 (b) All salaries, compensation, and expenses incurred or allowed to carry out the purposes
32 of this Article shall be paid by the Board exclusively out of the fees received by the Board as
33 authorized by this Article or funds received from other sources. In no case shall any salary,
34 expense, or other obligation authorized by this Article be charged against the State treasury.

35 (c) The Board shall establish fees for integrative therapies professions not exceeding the
36 following amounts:

- 37 (1) Issuance of a North Carolina Integrative Therapies License \$300.00
- 38 (2) License application and examination \$200.00
- 39 (3) North Carolina Integrative Therapies License renewal (annually) \$350.00
- 40 (4) Late renewal \$200.00.

41 **"§ 90-750.6. Violations.**

42 (a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, any person violating any
43 provision of this Article shall be punished as follows:

- 44 (1) For the first violation, the individual shall receive a written warning.
- 45 (2) For the second violation, the individual shall be subject to a civil penalty of
46 no more than two hundred dollars (\$200.00).
- 47 (3) For the third and each subsequent violation, the individual shall be subject to
48 a civil penalty of no more than two hundred dollars (\$200.00) for each
49 violation and shall be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor.

50 (b) The clear proceeds of a civil penalty assessed under this section shall be remitted to
51 the Civil Penalty and Forfeiture Fund in accordance with G.S. 115C-457.2.

1 **"§ 90-750.7. Injunction.**

2 As an additional remedy, the Board may proceed in superior court to enjoin and restrain any
3 person from violating the prohibitions of this Article. The Board shall not be required to post
4 bond when seeking an injunction pursuant to this section.

5 **"§ 90-750.8. Integrative therapies professions.**

6 The following are the integrative therapies professions subject to this Article:

7 (1) Art therapists.

8 (2) Music therapists.

9 **"§ 90-750.9. Third-party reimbursement.**

10 Nothing in this Article shall be construed to require direct third-party reimbursement to
11 persons licensed under this Article.

12 "Part 2. Art Therapy.

13 **"§ 90-750.10. Art therapy as an integrative therapy profession.**

14 It is the policy of this State that the practice of art therapy shall be considered an integrative
15 therapy profession.

16 **"§ 90-750.11. Definitions.**

17 The following definitions apply in this Part:

18 (1) Art therapy. – A therapeutic profession that enriches the lives of individuals,
19 families, and communities through active art-making, creative process,
20 applied psychological theory, and human experience within a therapeutic
21 relationship with the goal of restoring a client's functioning or sense of
22 personal well-being.

23 (2) Certifying entity. – The Art Therapy Credentials Board or its successor.

24 (3) Committee. – The North Carolina Art Therapy Advisory Committee.

25 (4) National certification. – A determination by the certifying entity that an
26 individual has passed the certifying entity's national exam and that the
27 individual has an active status with the certifying entity.

28 (5) North Carolina Licensed Art Therapist. – An individual that (i) is registered
29 by the certifying entity as a registered art therapist and (ii) has been issued a
30 North Carolina Integrative Therapies License in art therapy by the Board.

31 **"§ 90-750.12. North Carolina Art Therapy Advisory Committee.**

32 (a) Establishment. – The North Carolina Art Therapy Advisory Committee is created.
33 The Committee consists of three members serving staggered terms. The initial Committee
34 members shall be appointed on or before January 1, 2027, as follows:

35 (1) The Board shall appoint from a list of names submitted by the North Carolina
36 Art Therapy Association or its successor two art therapists eligible for
37 licensure under this Article. One member shall serve an initial term of three
38 years, and one member shall serve an initial term of two years.

39 (2) The Board shall appoint one public member who shall serve an initial term of
40 one year.

41 Upon the expiration of the terms of the initial Committee members, each subsequent member
42 shall be appointed for a term of three years. The term of a member shall begin on January 1 of
43 each year. A member shall serve until the member's successor is appointed. No member shall
44 serve on the Committee for more than two consecutive full terms.

45 (b) Qualifications. – The initial art therapist appointees shall be citizens of the United
46 States and North Carolina residents for at least two years prior to appointment, certified by the
47 certifying entity as an art therapist, and eligible to obtain a North Carolina Integrative Therapies
48 License in art therapy under G.S. 90-750.14. Upon appointment, each initial art therapist
49 appointee shall immediately seek to obtain a North Carolina Integrative Therapies License in art
50 therapy under this Article and shall remain in good standing with the Committee during the
51 appointee's term. Subsequent art therapy appointees shall be citizens of the United States,

1 residents of North Carolina, North Carolina Licensed Art Therapists, and appointed by the Board
2 from a list of names supplied by the North Carolina Art Therapy Association or its successor.
3 Public members of the Committee shall not be:

- 4 (1) An agent or employee trained or experienced in the practice of art therapy.
- 5 (2) An agent or employee of a person engaged in the practice of art therapy.
- 6 (3) A member of an integrative therapies profession or a person enrolled in a
7 program to become a member of an integrative therapies profession.
- 8 (4) A spouse of an individual licensed under this Article.
- 9 (5) Any person with significant financial interest in a health service or profession.

10 (c) Meetings. – The Committee shall elect annually a chair and other officers as it deems
11 necessary to carry out the purposes of this Article. The Committee may hold additional meetings
12 upon the call of the chair or any two Committee members. A majority of the Committee shall
13 constitute a quorum.

14 (d) Compensation of Members; Expenses; Employees. – Members of the Committee
15 shall receive no compensation for their services but shall receive per diem and necessary travel
16 and subsistence expenses as provided in G.S. 138-5 and G.S. 138-6. In no event shall the State
17 of North Carolina be liable for expenses incurred by the Committee in excess of the income
18 derived from this Article.

19 **"§ 90-750.13. Powers and duties of Committee.**

20 The Committee shall have the following powers and duties:

- 21 (1) Administer and coordinate the provisions of this Part.
- 22 (2) Make recommendations to the Board to adopt, amend, or repeal rules to
23 administer and enforce this Part.
- 24 (3) Establish and determine qualification and fitness of applicants for a North
25 Carolina Integrative Therapies License in art therapy under this Part.
- 26 (4) Make recommendations to the Board to issue, renew, deny, suspend, revoke,
27 or refuse to issue or renew a North Carolina Integrative Therapies License in
28 art therapy under this Article.
- 29 (5) Make recommendations to the Board to discipline North Carolina Licensed
30 Art Therapists.
- 31 (6) Advise the Board to seek civil and criminal penalties against unlicensed
32 individuals engaged in the practice of art therapy.
- 33 (7) Provide all North Carolina Licensed Art Therapists with a wallet-sized card
34 identifying the bearer as a North Carolina Licensed Art Therapist.
- 35 (8) Maintain a list of all individuals in the State who hold a North Carolina
36 Integrative Therapies License in art therapy.

37 **"§ 90-750.14. Integrative therapy licensure in art therapy application and requirements.**

38 Each individual desiring to obtain a North Carolina Integrative Therapies License in art
39 therapy under this Article shall apply to the Committee in accordance with the procedures and
40 rules prescribed by the Board. The Committee shall recommend that the Board issue a North
41 Carolina Integrative Therapies License in art therapy to any applicant who furnishes evidence
42 satisfactory to the Committee that the applicant meets all of the following criteria:

- 43 (1) The applicant is at least 18 years of age.
- 44 (2) The applicant is of good moral character as determined by the Committee.
- 45 (3) The applicant holds a national certification issued by the certifying entity.
- 46 (4) The applicant has paid all applicable fees to the Board as specified in
47 G.S. 90-750.5.

48 **"§ 90-750.15. License renewal.**

49 Every North Carolina Integrative Therapies License in art therapy issued by the Board shall
50 be renewed annually on a date established by rule. The Committee shall recommend that the
51 Board renew the North Carolina Integrative Therapies License in art therapy of any individual

1 who files a renewal application with the Committee and who meets the criteria set forth in
2 G.S. 90-750.14.

3 **"§ 90-750.16. Compensation for art therapy services; prohibited acts.**

4 Compensation may be received for art therapy services only when those services are
5 performed by an individual holding a North Carolina Integrative Therapies License in art therapy.
6 Nonlicensed individuals who provide art therapy services or who engage in the practice of art
7 therapy are subject to the penalties in G.S. 90-750.6 or an injunction under G.S. 90-750.7 unless
8 the individual is an art therapy student working to obtain a certification of completion from a
9 nationally recognized art therapy education program.

10 **"§ 90-750.17. License to be displayed; advertising.**

11 (a) At all places of business in which compensated art therapy services are offered, a
12 valid and up-to-date license for all individuals offering compensated art therapy services shall be
13 displayed in a prominent place.

14 (b) All public advertising designed to attract clients for art therapy services shall identify
15 that the services will be performed by an individual holding a North Carolina Integrative
16 Therapies License in art therapy.

17 (c) No individual shall use the title "North Carolina Licensed Art Therapist" unless that
18 individual holds a valid North Carolina Integrative Therapies License in art therapy issued by the
19 Board. Individuals holding themselves out as North Carolina Licensed Art Therapists shall carry
20 the identification card described in G.S. 90-750.13(7) at all times when providing art therapy
21 services. Individuals in violation of this subsection are subject to the penalties in G.S. 90-750.6
22 or an injunction under G.S. 90-750.7.

23 **"§ 90-750.18. Reciprocity.**

24 The Committee may recommend that the Board grant, upon application and payment of
25 proper fees, a North Carolina Integrative Therapies License in art therapy to a person who has
26 been licensed or certified to practice art therapy in another state or territory of the United States
27 whose standards of competency are substantially equivalent to the requirements for licensure
28 provided in this Article.

29 "Part 3. Music Therapy.

30 **"§ 90-750.20. Music therapy as an integrative therapies profession.**

31 It is the policy of this State that the practice of music therapy shall be considered an
32 integrative therapies profession.

33 **"§ 90-750.21. Definitions.**

34 The following definitions apply in this Part:

- 35 (1) Certifying entity. – The Certification Board for Music Therapists or its
36 successor.
- 37 (2) Committee. – The North Carolina Music Therapy Advisory Committee.
- 38 (3) Music therapy. – The clinical and evidence-based use of music interventions
39 to accomplish individualized goals for people of all ages and ability levels
40 within a therapeutic relationship by a credentialed professional who has
41 completed an approved music therapy program, including (i) assessment of a
42 client's emotional, physical, and spiritual health; social functioning;
43 communication abilities; and cognitive skills through the client's history and
44 observation and interaction of the client in music and nonmusic settings, (ii)
45 development and implementation of treatment plans, based on a client's
46 assessed needs, using music interventions, including music improvisation,
47 receptive music listening, song writing, lyric discussion, music and imagery,
48 singing, music performance, learning through music, music combined with
49 other arts, music-assisted relaxation, music-based patient education,
50 electronic music technology, adapted music intervention, and movement to

1 music, and (iii) evaluation and documentation of the client's response to
2 treatment.

3 (4) Music therapy services. – The provision of services to accomplish music
4 therapy goals, including (i) conducting an individualized assessment for the
5 purpose of collecting systematic, comprehensive, and accurate data necessary
6 to determine the course of action subsequent to the individualized treatment
7 plan, (ii) planning and developing the individualized music therapy treatment
8 plan that identifies an individual's goals, objectives, and potential treatment
9 intervention strategies, (iii) implementing the individualized music therapy
10 treatment plan consistent with the individual's overall treatment program, (iv)
11 systematically evaluating and comparing the individual's response to the
12 individualized music therapy treatment plan, documenting progress, and
13 suggesting modifications, as appropriate, (v) developing a discharge plan in
14 collaboration with the individual, the individual's family, treatment team, and
15 other identified support networks, when appropriate, (vi) minimizing the
16 impact of environmental constraints as a barrier to participation in least
17 restrictive environments for individuals engaging in music therapy, (vii)
18 collaborating with and educating the individual, family, caregiver, and others
19 to foster an environment responsive to the developmental needs of the
20 individual as addressed in music therapy, and (viii) consulting with groups,
21 programs, organizations, or communities to improve accessibility to music
22 therapy services.

23 (5) National certification. – A determination by the certifying entity that an
24 individual has satisfied the certifying entity's requirements and that the
25 individual has an active status with the certifying entity.

26 (6) North Carolina Licensed Music Therapist. – An individual who has been
27 issued a North Carolina Integrative Therapies License in music therapy by the
28 Board.

29 **§ 90-750.22. North Carolina Music Therapy Advisory Committee.**

30 (a) Establishment. – The North Carolina Music Therapy Advisory Committee is created.
31 The Committee consists of three members serving staggered terms. The initial Committee
32 members shall be appointed on or before January 1, 2027, as follows:

33 (1) The Board shall appoint from a list of names submitted by the Music Therapy
34 Association of North Carolina or its successor two music therapists eligible to
35 obtain a North Carolina Integrative Therapies License in music therapy under
36 this Article. One member shall serve an initial term of three years, and one
37 member shall serve an initial term of two years.

38 (2) The Board shall appoint one public member who shall serve an initial term of
39 one year.

40 Upon the expiration of the terms of the initial Committee members, each subsequent member
41 shall be appointed for a term of three years. The term of a member shall begin on January 1 of
42 each year. A member shall serve until the member's successor is appointed. No member shall
43 serve on the Committee for more than two consecutive full terms.

44 (b) Qualifications. – The initial music therapist appointees shall be citizens of the United
45 States and North Carolina residents for at least two years prior to appointment, certified by the
46 certifying entity as a music therapist, and eligible to obtain a North Carolina Integrative Therapies
47 License in music therapy under G.S. 90-750.24. Upon appointment, each initial music therapist
48 appointee shall immediately seek to obtain a North Carolina Integrative Therapies License in
49 music therapy under this Article and shall remain in good standing with the Committee during
50 the appointee's term. Subsequent music therapist appointees shall be citizens of the United States,
51 residents of North Carolina, North Carolina Licensed Music Therapists, and appointed by the

1 Board from a list of names supplied by the Music Therapy Association of North Carolina or its
2 successor. Public members of the Committee shall not be:

- 3 (1) An agent or employee trained or experienced in the practice of music therapy.
- 4 (2) An agent or employee of a person engaged in the practice of music therapy.
- 5 (3) A member of an integrative therapies profession or a person enrolled in a
6 program to become a member of an integrative therapies profession.
- 7 (4) A spouse of an individual licensed under this Article.
- 8 (5) Any person with significant financial interest in a health service or profession.

9 (c) Meetings. – The Committee shall elect annually a chair and other officers as it deems
10 necessary to carry out the purposes of this Article. The Committee may hold additional meetings
11 upon the call of the chair or any two Committee members. A majority of the Committee shall
12 constitute a quorum.

13 (d) Compensation of Members; Expenses; Employees. – Members of the Committee
14 shall receive no compensation for their services but shall receive per diem and necessary travel
15 and subsistence expenses as provided in G.S. 138-5 and G.S. 138-6. In no event shall the State
16 of North Carolina be liable for expenses incurred by the Committee in excess of the income
17 derived from this Article.

18 **"§ 90-750.23. Powers and duties of Committee.**

19 The Committee shall have the following powers and duties:

- 20 (1) Administer and coordinate the provisions of this Part.
- 21 (2) Make recommendations to the Board to adopt, amend, or repeal rules to
22 administer and enforce this Part.
- 23 (3) Establish and determine qualification and fitness of applicants for a North
24 Carolina Integrative Therapies License in music therapy under this Part.
- 25 (4) Make recommendations to the Board to issue, renew, deny, suspend, revoke,
26 or refuse to issue or renew a North Carolina Integrative Therapies License in
27 music therapy under this Article.
- 28 (5) Make recommendations to the Board to discipline North Carolina Licensed
29 Music Therapists.
- 30 (6) Advise the Board to seek civil and criminal penalties against nonlicensed
31 individuals engaged in the practice of music therapy.
- 32 (7) Provide all North Carolina Licensed Music Therapists with a wallet-sized card
33 identifying the bearer as a North Carolina Licensed Music Therapist.
- 34 (8) Maintain a list of all individuals in the State who hold a North Carolina
35 Integrative Therapies License in music therapy.

36 **"§ 90-750.24. North Carolina Integrative Therapies License in music therapy**
37 **requirements.**

38 Each individual desiring to obtain a North Carolina Integrative Therapies License in music
39 therapy under this Article shall apply to the Committee in accordance with the procedures and
40 rules prescribed by the Board. The Committee shall recommend that the Board issue a North
41 Carolina Integrative Therapies License in music therapy to any applicant who furnishes evidence
42 satisfactory to the Committee that the applicant meets all of the following criteria:

- 43 (1) Is 18 years of age or older.
- 44 (2) Is of good moral character as determined by the Committee.
- 45 (3) Provides proof of one of the following:
 - 46 a. Passing the examination for board certification offered by the
47 Certification Board for Music Therapists or its successor
48 organizations.
 - 49 b. Being transitioned into board certification by the Certification Board
50 for Music Therapists or its successor organizations and currently
51 holding the MT-BC credential as a board-certified music therapist.

(4) Has paid all applicable fees to the Board as specified under G.S. 90-750.5.

"§ 90-750.25. License renewal.

Every North Carolina Integrative Therapies License in music therapy issued by the Board shall be renewed annually on a date established by rule. The Committee shall recommend that the Board renew the license of any individual who files a renewal application with the Committee and who meets the licensure criteria set forth in G.S. 90-750.24.

"§ 90-750.26. Compensation for music therapy services; prohibited acts.

Compensation may be received for music therapy services only when those services are performed by an individual holding a North Carolina Integrative Therapies License in music therapy. Nonlicensed individuals who provide music therapy services or who engage in the practice of music therapy are subject to the penalties in G.S. 90-750.6 or an injunction under G.S. 90-750.7.

"§ 90-750.27. North Carolina Licensed Music Therapist.

(a) No individual without a North Carolina Integrative Therapies License in music therapy shall use the title "music therapist," "licensed professional music therapist," or similar title or practice music therapy.

(b) Nothing in this Chapter may be construed to prohibit or restrict the practice, services, or activities of the following:

(1) Any individual licensed, certified, or regulated under the laws of this State in another profession or occupation, including physicians, psychologists, psychoanalysts, registered nurses, marriage and family therapists, social workers, occupational therapists, professional or rehabilitation counselors, speech-language pathologists or audiologists, or personnel supervised by a licensed professional, performing work, including the use of music, incidental to the practice of his or her licensed, certified, or regulated profession or occupation, if that person does not represent himself or herself as a music therapist.

(2) Any individual whose training and national certification attests to the individual's preparation and ability to practice his or her certified profession or occupation, if that person does not represent himself or herself as a music therapist.

(3) Any practice of music therapy as an integral part of a program of study for students enrolled in an accredited music therapy program, if the student does not represent himself or herself as a music therapist.

(c) An individual who is not a licensed professional music therapist may provide music therapy under the supervision of a licensed professional music therapist for a period not to exceed 180 days from the start of practice if the individual's application to obtain board certification is pending and the individual meets the remaining requirements for a North Carolina Integrative Therapies License in music therapy listed in G.S. 90-750.24.

"§ 90-750.28. Reciprocity.

The Committee may recommend that the Board grant, upon application and payment of proper fees, a North Carolina Integrative Therapies License in music therapy to a person who has been licensed or certified to practice music therapy in another state or territory of the United States whose standards of competency are substantially equivalent to the requirements for licensure provided in this Article.

"§ 90-750.29. Collaboration.

(a) Before an individual with a North Carolina Integrative Therapies License in music therapy provides music therapy services to a client for an identified clinical or developmental need, the individual shall review the client's diagnosis, treatment needs, and treatment plan with the health care providers involved in the client's care. Before an individual with a North Carolina Integrative Therapies License in music therapy provides music therapy services to a student for

1 an identified educational need in a special education setting, the individual shall review with the
2 individualized family service plan or individualized education program team the student's
3 diagnosis, treatment needs, and treatment plan.

4 (b) During the provision of music therapy services to a client, an individual with a North
5 Carolina Integrative Therapies License in music therapy shall collaborate, as applicable, with the
6 client's treatment team, including the client's physician, psychologist, licensed clinical social
7 worker, or other mental health professional. During the provision of music therapy services to a
8 client with a communication disorder, an individual with a North Carolina Integrative Therapies
9 License in music therapy shall collaborate and discuss the music therapy treatment plan with the
10 client's audiologist or speech-language pathologist so that the music therapist may work with the
11 client and address communication skills.

12 (c) When providing educational or health care services, an individual with a North
13 Carolina Integrative Therapies License in music therapy may not replace the services provided
14 by an audiologist or a speech-language pathologist. Unless authorized to practice
15 speech-language pathology, music therapists may not evaluate, examine, instruct, or counsel on
16 speech, language, communication, and swallowing disorders and conditions. An individual with
17 a North Carolina Integrative Therapies License in music therapy may not represent to the public
18 that the individual is authorized to treat a communication disorder. This does not prohibit an
19 individual with a North Carolina Integrative Therapies License in music therapy from
20 representing to the public that the individual may work with clients who have a communication
21 disorder and address communication skills."

22 **SECTION 2.(a)** Notwithstanding G.S. 90-750.3, as enacted by Section 1 of this act,
23 the initial members of the North Carolina Board of Integrative Therapies shall be appointed as
24 follows:

- 25 (1) The General Assembly, upon the recommendation of the President Pro
26 Tempore of the Senate, shall appoint one art therapist to serve an initial term
27 of three years.
- 28 (2) The General Assembly, upon the recommendation of the Speaker of the House
29 of Representatives, shall appoint one music therapist to serve an initial term
30 of two years.
- 31 (3) The Governor shall appoint one art therapist to serve an initial term of two
32 years.
- 33 (4) The Governor shall appoint one music therapist to serve an initial term of three
34 years.
- 35 (5) The Governor shall appoint one physician to serve an initial term of two years
36 and one physician to serve an initial term of one year.
- 37 (6) The Governor shall appoint one member of the public who shall serve an
38 initial term of three years.

39 **SECTION 2.(b)** The art therapists appointed to the Board pursuant to subsection (a)
40 of this section shall have been North Carolina residents for at least two years prior to
41 appointment, certified by a national entity that certifies art therapists, and eligible for licensure
42 under G.S. 90-750.14, as enacted by Section 1 of this act. Upon appointment, the art therapist
43 appointees shall seek to obtain a North Carolina Integrative Therapies License in art therapy as
44 soon as the first application period begins and shall remain in good standing with the Board.

45 **SECTION 2.(c)** The music therapists appointed to the Board pursuant to subsection
46 (a) of this section shall have been North Carolina residents for at least two years prior to
47 appointment, certified by a national entity that certifies music therapists, and eligible for licensure
48 under G.S. 90-750.24, as enacted pursuant to Section 1 of this act. Upon appointment, the initial
49 music therapist appointees shall seek to obtain a North Carolina Integrative Therapies License in
50 music therapy as soon as the first application period begins and shall remain in good standing
51 with the Board.

1 **SECTION 2.(d)** The appointments required by this section shall be made on or
2 before December 1, 2026, and the initial terms of the appointees shall begin on January 1, 2027.
3 Once these initial terms expire, all vacancies shall be filled according to the provisions of
4 G.S. 90-750.3, as enacted in Section 1 of this act.

5 **SECTION 2.(e)** G.S. 90-750.6, 90-750.7, 90-750.16, 90-750.17, 90-750.26, and
6 90-750.27, as enacted by Section 1 of this act, become effective on the date that is the first day
7 of a month that begins 180 days after the chair of the North Carolina Board of Integrative
8 Therapies certifies to the Revisor of Statutes that the Board has begun accepting applications for
9 Integrative Therapies Licenses and apply to acts committed on or after that date. This section and
10 the remainder of Section 1 of this act are effective when they become law.

11 **SECTION 3.** Except as otherwise provided, this act is effective when it becomes
12 law.