

## Eli's Rehab Report

### State News: Colorado OTs, Say Hello to 'OTR'

If you practice occupational therapy in Colorado, get ready to revalidate your credentials. Colorado **Gov. Bill Ritter** has signed a bill that will require OTs to be registered with the state Department of Regulatory Agencies (DORA), according to a May 21 press release from the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA).

Like registration laws in other states, this bill requires OTs to verify that they have met specific education, experience and exam requirements, AOTA says. However, this legislation differs in that it provides protection for both the title "occupational therapist" AND the practice, **Chuck Willmarth**, director of state affairs for AOTA, tells **TCI**. In other words, not only do you have to be registered to call yourself an OT, but you must also be registered to legally practice OT.

Another difference: State agency staff, rather than an occupational therapy regulatory board, will oversee the registration process. For more information on the Colorado legislation, go to <http://www.aota.org/News/AdvocacyNews/41924.aspx>.