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November 10, 2010

2010 NOV 15 A 10:14

Michaele Totino
Regulations Analyst
IRRC
333 Market Street,
14th Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17101

Re: No. 2843 STATE BOARD OF MASSAGE THERAPY #16A-721:
MASSAGE THERAPY

Dear Ms. Michaele Totino:

I am a recently certified massage therapist and I am writing to express my belief that the Final Massage Regulation edit from October 2010 does not serve the profession and should not be passed in its current form.

As I understand, the final version of the regulation does not permit the massage profession to claim that it provides a "therapeutic" service. After 633 hours of training in Massage Therapy, I strongly disagree. Placing this limitation on the profession is pedantic and robs the bodywork field of the full credit it is due. I would like the word "Therapeutic" put back into the definition of Massage Therapy.

Also, I urge the committee to be sure that the scope of practice for Massage Therapy is CLEARLY delineated in the regulations. The October edit of the regulation leaves out the specific conditions that may be alleviated via massage therapy. Ideally, I would like the "scope of practice" defined as it was in the May proposal with the following wording: "Massage therapists treat the soft tissue manifestations of the human body, which may include the following: (insert list of treatable conditions)".

I ask that you vote down the current legislation No. 2843 STATE BOARD OF MASSAGE THERAPY #16A-721: MASSAGE THERAPY.

As a practitioner in the field, I know I am not alone in this position. Thank you in advance for your attention and consideration.

Best regards,



Sarah Carlson
Certified Massage Therapist