

3203



**From:** scinc11@verizon.net  
**To:** ST\_RegulatoryCounsel  
**Subject:** Regulation #16A-724 (IRRC #3203)  
**Date:** Thursday, July 5, 2018 3:37:13 PM

Attn: Jacqueline A. Wolfgang, Assistant Counsel

Regarding the above "proposed regulation" to increase massage therapist license renewal fee in Pennsylvania to \$200.00 is disheartening, discouraging and disappointing.

**Facts About the Industry:**

Commission based.

Extremely slow times of year.

Rarely, if ever are health or other benefits offered by employers. If they are, they are at the expense of the therapist.

The competition is stifling! The massage market is saturated with spas, wellness centers, chiropractors, franchises, health clubs and private practitioners forcing business owners to lower prices. Inadvertently effecting therapist's income.

GROUPONS, coupons and promotions drive therapist's wages down.

Most employer's require liability insurance. The average cost per year is \$199, paid by the therapist.

Continuing Education costs range from \$300 to \$500 every 2 years, often paid by the therapist.

Therapist need to maintain self care do to the physical demands of the job. Ideally, monthly massages are recommended and often necessary. Many employers offer a discount, however there is still an expense incurred.

The only consistency in this industry, is the inconsistency, especially where wages are concerned. Their is far less security in the massage industry then working a job where you punch a clock. Busy or not, you get paid.

This increase will discourage potential new students from becoming therapist. As well as, force current therapist out of the industry or to practice in neighboring states.

I have been a massage therapist for well over a decade. Prior to being aware of the "proposed regulation" I had given much thought to changing careers. This determination may very well be my deciding factor.

I truly hope that all decision making parties will come to realize the tremendous burden that this increase will have on the average working class family, single parent, student and single family income provider.

Respectfully,

Anonymous  
PA, LMT