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**From:** Charity  
**To:** ST. Regulatory Counsel  
**Subject:** Proposed fee increase  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 4, 2018 5:48:16 PM



To whom it may concern,

I am a licensed massage therapist in both PA and West Virginia. I have read of the proposed fee increase. I do understand that costs do increase but I feel that a \$125 rate increase is unfair. A gradual fee increase of say \$25 dollars per renewal year over several renewal periods and a \$25 increase in initial licensing fee every 2 years is much more affordable for therapists. Personally I feel that the initial licensing fee should be higher than the renewal fee. As we would only pay the initial fee once but we are expected to pay the renewal fee every 2 years AND keep up with continuing education credits which can cost thousands of dollars. In addition to that we are responsible for liability insurance.

Most massage therapists like myself are paid a commission on services and do not get health insurance, retirement benefits or paid time off or sick leave. This drastic rate increase would negatively impact many therapists.

I would suggest that the board thoroughly review their budgets and make a reduction in costs of operations where possible. I know this will not completely balance the budget but it is a step in the right direction and puts some of the responsibility of the deficit on the Board itself instead of dumping it all on the therapists which seems like a punishment.

Thank you for giving me a platform to express my opinions,

Charity Taylor, LMT

Sent from my iPhone