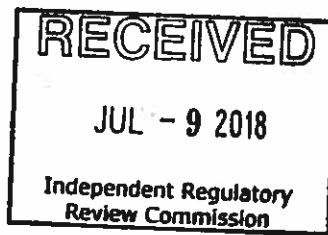


3203



From: Laura J. Stauffer
To: ST. Regulatory Counsel
Subject: Regulation #16A-724 (IRRC #3203)
Date: Monday, July 2, 2018 3:11:17 PM

To Jacqueline A. Wolfgang, Assistant Counsel

I am writing about Regulation #16A-724 (IRRC #3203) with regards to the licensing fees being increase for massage therapy.

While I understand the need to become financially solvent and not borrow from other sources imposing such a drastic jump to our industry could be very difficult and lead to individuals leaving the field or becoming non-compliant.

Personally I would like to see the proposed budget and a list of expenditures to understand the spending of our board to justify such an increase in our licensing fees.

I would also propose to do a gradual incremental increase to reach your proposed \$200 mark instead of raising fees so drastically for those already working in the field.

Working as a therapist and not being able to raise my fees very much more due to market availability, having to pay for continuing education classes and the expense that comes from them, insurances, materials this increase does create a hardship, because I have no way to offset the growing cost. It also creates a hardship for young therapists working in the chain establishments that are just barely making ends meeting, having to pay for student loans, all of the a fore mentioned expenses and now a greater licensing fee. I feel this is going to push more therapists to leave the profession or becoming non-compliant.

Please consider a different approach and make available budgets and expenditures to the public so we can understand what exactly our fees are going to fund.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Laura

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