

3203

Anita DeFrancesco

To: RA-STRegulatoryCounsel@pa.gov
Subject: Regulation #16A-724 (IRRC #3203)

7-2-18

Re: Massage License Increase OBJECTION NOTICE HERE
Regulation #16A-724 (IRRC#3203)
Attn: Jacqueline A. Wolfgang

I am in opposition and object to the proposed licensure increase for massage therapists.



Firstly

- What is the reason for the increase?**
- Where are extra dollars going to?**

Secondly

-We know the massage field is popular and growing but it is also a short term career because age and hands and the body gives out. As most therapist start out in their twenties, they are good like a sport player to 35 max. And if the MT gets pregnant forget about working because of the physicality of the work. And because of the physical demand of the job, MT's can only work so many hours as the human body can only handle so much. With this in mind therapists have to work harder and faster during those years and hopefully have something to fall back on. So if the board and the world are looking at the therapeutic girl or guy doing massage as a get rich quick scheme then you are mistaken. Massage therapists run for the on demand clients and companies now a day out there which also jolts the immunity and nervous system. When immunity is down or hands hurt from carpel tunnel then no money. I think raising this licensure can put more pressure on therapists as is. As a therapist we need to care for our body and that little bit of extra money can buy the self a massage. MT's are also faced with spending lots of dollars washing and drying sheets and caring for massage equipment: tables, chairs and also purchasing the expensive lotions on

the market. Every dollar truly counts for the therapist, because she is always needing to run on demand and spend for parking with also the hopes of getting a tip. Most companies don't pay as high as a therapist would want because they know we get tips—that's if you get a tip and a good one. Living on the edge.
FEMALES LIVING ON THE EDGE.

Also most massage therapists are **WOMEN** struggling with children and working hard physically.

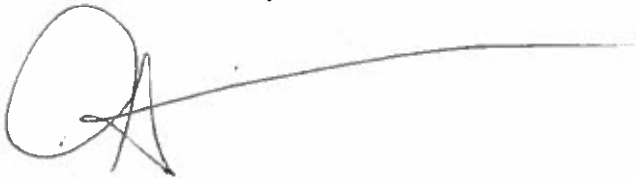
This proposal almost sounds discriminating toward the **WOMAN**. And keeping in mind a lot of MT's are **MINORITY WOMEN**.

Please don't let the glamour of massage therapy fool you in thinking this it is a lucrative business. It can be lucrative for the owner of a spa or something but certainly not the therapists.

I am asking you to rethink the proposal and look at the economics and bigger picture of all of this.

Thank you

Anita DeFrancesco, LMT

A handwritten signature in dark ink, consisting of a large, stylized capital 'A' followed by a long, horizontal, slightly wavy line extending to the right.