JUL 1 3 2018 Independent Regulatory Review Commission

to Ms. Wolfgang,

I am writing in OPPOSITION to the proposed new regulations that would increase the application fee, the continuing education program fee and the biennial renewal fee imposed on Licensed Massage Therapists.

As a LMT of 18+ years and a continuing education provider I know the difficulty many massage therapists have initiating a new career and maintaining the required renewal requirements. We have a strong desire to support the health of our community and understand our need for continual learning to become informed therapists.

Our journeys in the career of massage therapy are often challenged by low paying employers (often without any benefits), competition from illicit businesses, continuing education that is not always easy to obtain due to distance or financial constraints, and now we are faced with high increases in our regulatory fees!

I personally, and from my students have daily struggles just to maintain a "living wage." Please know that the proposed increases will hamper the industry and lessen the desire for new therapists wishing to engage in this health supporting career.

I am OPPOSED to these regulatory increases. I will alert my fellow therapists to make their voices heard as well.

Professionally,

Bridgit Martin, LMT MSG000682

Fulton County, PA