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**From:** Joanne Nicholson [mailto:jo.nickle@gmail.com]

**Sent:** Friday, July 6, 2018 5:36 PM

**To:** ST, MASSAGE THERAPY <RA-MASSAGETHERAPY@pa.gov>; PA Governor's Office  
<GovernorsOffice@pa.gov>

**Subject:** License renewal increase for PA massage therapists

I was shocked to learn that there is a plan afoot to raise the LMT renewal fee from \$75 to \$200 this January.

I am a part time LMT working for a hospital system here in PA. I work about 23 hours per week. My current rate of pay is \$25.75 per hr.

My expenses are high: I must maintain a professional organization membership of \$200 per year. Although a few of my continuing education credits are covered by my employer, I must pay for the rest out of pocket as well as transportation and accommodations as necessary. I feel that the added burden on me to maintain my license is unfair and out of balance with my earnings. Governor Tom Wolf is calling for reforms to several job licensing boards and the licensing requirements to remove barriers to employment so skilled workers can enter the careers of their choice, strengthen the workforce, and grow our economy. I believe that your current plan will place a significant barrier to LMTs in PA.

I realize that you have a shortfall. That's not our fault. I think that \$200 all at once is excessive. Could you please consider raising the fee incrementally over the next two renewal periods so as not to put it all on us in 2019?

Respectfully,

Joanne Nicholson, BS, LMT

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