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Independent Regulatory
Review Commission

3203
From: Bradley, Deirdre V
To: ST. Regulatory Counsel
Subject: Proposed licensing fee increase
Date: Tuesday, July 17, 2018 9:43:06 AM

Dear Jacqueline Wolfgang,

I am a licensed massage therapist in the state of PA. I work for WellSpan Center for Mind/Body Health part-time as a massage therapist. I have been a massage therapist since 2010. I am writing to express concern about the proposed increase in our license renewal fee.

Due to the very physical nature of our job, the vast majority of massage therapists that I know only practice in a part-time capacity, thus limiting our income. The proposed rate increase from \$75 to \$200 is an approximately 167% increase. My annual salary increase might be 3.5%, which does not come close to the hike in licensing fees. I believe the fee for RN license renewal is only \$45 for two years. The proposed licensing fee seems very disproportionate to our income. I can imagine that those who practice massage on the side would not be willing to pay such an exorbitant amount to work on friends, family and co-workers, which could lead to people practicing massage illegally. Costs for continuing education are already high, and often involve added expenses of travel, hotel and meals away from home. Such a high rate for license renewal would be prohibitive for maintaining a high quality of professionalism, added to the expenses already demanded of us in order to continually hone our skills. I can see a large number of people choosing not to renew their license simply because of the cost factor. I hope you will take these concerns into account and look for other options to solve the budget issue. For example, maybe our board could be absorbed under another already established board to help control expenses and increase efficiency. There have to be other options that aren't so prohibitive to those who do this part-time.

Sincerely,

Deirdre Vanessa Bradley, LMT

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****Please be advised that essential oils are used in our practice.****

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