From: To: Subject: Desiree Climie

ST. RegulatoryCounsel

Subject: Increase of massage therapy fees

Date: Sunday, July 15, 2018 12:23:06 PM

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JUL 2.5 2018

Independent Regulatory Review Commission

To whom it may concern:

My name is Desiree Climie, I have been a professional massage therapist for twelve years. I am writing in regards to the proposed increase of costs for licensure (#16A-724(IRRC#3203)) The increase in these costs would be a detriment to us therapists, but also to the clients and patients we care about. I only make about \$24k per year doing therapy for MVA and PI patients.

I love my job, this career is my passion. We often work for other people, making very little money, we are not reimbursed for supplies or continuing education. It is very difficult to pay for everything out of pocket on an already low wage, while also paying basic living expenses. Staying legal and legitimate is extremely important, but I feel that ever increasing fees will mean many of us won't be able to continue practicing the career we are so dedicated to because we will be paying more for our licensure than we are actually earning as income.

Twelve years after earning my certification/licensure, I am still paying student loans, and will be for several more years. (My school is also no longer in existence, making said repayment more frustrating.) Increasing the cost to the schools who provide our CEU's will be force them to increase the costs of classes that are already very expensive for a lot of us. I feel clients and patients will suffer the most if many MT's are forced to discontinue practicing due to the financial strain for staying legal and legitimate. They wouldn't get the quality care they need that is not provided by traditional medical facilities/providers.

I implore you to please strongly reconsider this proposed increase.

Thank you for your time, Desiree Climie, LMT

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