

**From:** Janine Matus  
**To:** [ST\\_RegulatoryCounsel](#)  
**Subject:** Proposed fee Increase for massage therapists in PA  
**Date:** Friday, July 20, 2018 6:36:49 PM

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To whom it may concern,

As a prior massage therapist from Germany, going through a 2 year full time program, 4 weeks of examinations, receiving a certification (no further renewals are required after that) moving to the states 10 years ago and getting relicensed I find the proposal for the increase regarding the massage therapy licenses outrageous. To raise the price from \$75 to \$200 doesn't make sense and frankly is quite disgusting.

As a licensed massage therapist we already have a big financial responsibility just in CE classes and insurance. We don't make a lot of money in this career, regardless if self employed or working under somebody, a lot of people have to work a part time job on the side just to make a decent living. Working 8 hours doing massages is just not realistic, our work is not of quantity but quality.

We chose this path because we care and are able to help people.

The statistic of a yearly salary of \$39,860 for massage therapists is not a true fact. This might be the case on the west coast but definitely not for the state of Pennsylvania. Doing some research, no other state has a fee that high. And Pennsylvania can't justify an increase like that just because the Board is considered a self sustained entity. Even our State Representative and State Senator don't agree with this and weren't even aware of this situation, as well as Mayor Peduto who shook his head after hearing about the proposed increase.

It's not that we can raise our prices to \$200 for an hour massage and expect to have enough clientele. Not in the world we live in right now. Let alone on an ethical standpoint it is not right.

On top of that, as LMTs we are not protected by the State at all. Instead of making us pay, go after the people who don't have a license or the whack shacks around here who claim they are Asian bodyworkers to avoid licensure but still advertise massage therapy and give us a bad reputation.

With everything stated above I sincerely would hope you reconsider this proposal.

LMT of 12 years  
Janine Matus

Sent from myMail for iOS

