

From: Sapphire Moon
To: ST. Regulatory Counsel
Subject: Regulation #16A-724 (IRRC #3203)
Date: Tuesday, July 17, 2018 10:33:59 AM

3203

I am writing in response to the proposed Regulation #16A-724 (IRRC #3203) that would increase Massage Therapist Licensing fees from \$75 to \$200.

I have read through the documents and understand that the costs of Licensing out weigh the income at this point. But, you must understand that the average Licensed Massage Therapist practicing in rural areas of Pennsylvania do not make the income to sustain this dramatic increase. I personally have been a self employed Massage Therapist for over 20 years. I love my work and would like to continue to work in the field. When considering I had no state fees for over 10 years and now am being asked to pay and increased fee that is over double what I have previously paid, I may re-evaluate what I will do with my career over the next 2 years. This, coming from a 20 year veteran of the field, should make you think that if you lose more therapists, due to costs, you still will not meet your budget. This would also be a loss to the local community and the health care community as a whole. The state legislature thinks Massage Therapists are an essential part of the healthcare community, or they would not have required them to gain a license to practice their craft.



As an active board member of the Clarion Area Chamber of Business and Industry and an active member of the Clarion Rotary Club, losing more jobs in any industry in Pennsylvania is a loss to every community. Small business have been fighting to keep their doors open and this is another reason that will make it more difficult.

I ask you to please rethink the exorbitant increase of the Massage Therapist Licensing renewal fees. This increase would definitely create a hardship for many Licensed Massage Therapists in Pennsylvania.

Thank you for your time.

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