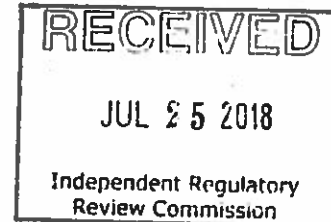


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From: Judy Ellsworth
To: ST. Regulatory Counsel
Subject: LMT Renewal fee increase
Date: Thursday, July 19, 2018 9:12:42 PM



I am emailing in response to the proposed license renewal fee increase for massage therapists that would be instated this January.

I am not in favor of this increase! I understand when increased costs result in rate hikes but this increase is outlandish! To more than double the cost will put a tremendous burden on me and my peers. We must pay for continuing education, which is beneficial to our clients and improves us as therapists. These classes are costly and increasing the renewal fee will impact the quality of training we will be able to afford. More than doubling the rate is unacceptable. Alternative ways to meet expenses need to be sought by the State Board. Cutting costs should be one of them. How can the operating costs increase so sharply when the first year should have been the most costly since all existing massage therapists had to be licensed that year. I've been informed of the followin:

The State Board attorneys announced that LMT's who were found to be non-compliant with an aspect of the licensure have offered to surrender their license and no longer practice instead of requiring them to pay the fines/fees associated with the infraction and require them to be compliant.

This business practice may be one of the reasons why there aren't as many renewals from one licensing year to the next. If the renewals are decreasing, then why are the operating costs increasing?

We should also be able to carry our extra CEUs to the next licensing period.

Respectfully,

Judy Ellsworth, LMT

Sent from my iPhone