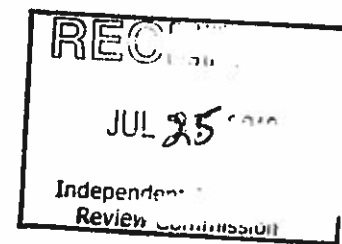


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From: Kinsey Gensel
To: ST_RegulatoryCounsel
Subject: Proposed licensing & fee increase
Date: Sunday, July 22, 2018 7:58:01 PM



To whom it may concern re-the proposed licensing increase:

Hello! My name is Kinsey Gensel and I am the owner/operator of Kinsey Massage Therapy. I have been a certified then licensed therapist for over 13 years, but really my interest in the field spans well over 20 years. While I have many interests, outlets, and loves, massage is my full time occupation and passion and will be for at least the next decade. So I am viewing this from a long term perspective both future and past.

This proposed rate increase is first wholly unfair to expect therapists to dig the board out of a hole they have solely created and to which we have no control over. May I suggest they find some part time jobs to recover the costs? Or a bake sale? Sell lemonade? I do dog sitting on the side so I can fund my meager camping vacations for myself, children and dogs and also volunteer at a CSA in exchange for vegetables every week.

Secondly, a quick glance at the fees of other PA occupations you'll find that estheticians and cosmetologists pay slightly less than we do biannually, \$67 (I believe) while chiropractors pay \$210 biannually. So are you to say we are now on the same level as chiropractors? Well, congratulations to us then! I hope the rest of society follows your lead. Maybe then we could start racking in closer to 6 figures like the chiropractors I know. Not that I'm doing this for the money, the respect would be swell too. Maybe I'd get less sexual solicitations. No. That certainly hasn't slowed down in the years since licensing, but I could have sworn that was supposed to be a side benefit? Yes?

Thirdly, this will increase the rates of continuing eds and I'm not sure you want me to go there at this point. Well, I will anyway. I have many complaints when it comes to continuing eds and I might as well air them. Another forced requirement of licensing...

24 credits every 2 years is an absurd amount of extra education for a field where there are very few new advances. I keep signing up for these classes thinking it's something I haven't taken yet based on the description and they are either repackaging a basic skill we all should have learned in school already OR they are bastardizing some else's famous work and passing it off as their own without the ample research and years of experience to back their claims.

I am literally just signing up for classes I don't even want to take or are interested in just to fulfill requirements for licensing with anywhere from \$150-\$500 a pop down the drain. I have learned almost nothing new since taking these classes and they have added little to my practice. They detract more than anything else with lost time and money in office and at home with my children (I am a single mom) and dogs as I almost always need to travel over an hour or two away. It is very difficult and an extra added cost and burden to find childcare and dog sitting to take a class I don't even want to take. In order to actually take classes in an extended modality that I'd be interested in, I would probably need to fly to another state.

And mandatory reporting? I spend more time taking the absurdly long online class for this requirement then I actually spend seeing underage clients per year.

CPR. That's good and necessary. I agree we all should have this as human beings.

In conclusion-if the board is at a deficit of well over 1 million dollars then they were at a deficit two years ago as well and knew it. Changes should have been made then. This is basic math, there are only so many LMTs in the state of PA. This isn't our fault and we shouldn't have to shoulder the burden of cost for something we are seemingly getting little out of in return, have now lost our good faith in the current board, and for what many of us never wanted in the first place. So, no, I do not agree with any of the rate increases.

Sincerely,

Kinsey Gensel, LMT

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Kinsey Gensel, LMT #MSG005490