

3203

**From:** Lisa Elder  
**To:** ST. Regulatory Counsel  
**Subject:** Regulation #16A-724 (IRRC #3203)  
**Date:** Saturday, July 21, 2018 5:27:59 PM

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Dear Jacqueline,

I am writing to you today regarding the proposal to raise the license renewal fee for massage therapists from \$75 biennially to \$200. This is an excessive and unfair increase which, in my opinion, will increase the number of massage therapists choosing to work without a license. I say it is unfair because a nurse in the state of Pennsylvania pays \$65 every two years to renew their license. According to my research, the starting salary for a full time RN in Pennsylvania is between \$45,000 and \$60,000. The median salary for a full time massage therapist is around \$40,000. A pharmacist in Pennsylvania pays \$180 every two years to renew their professional license. Their starting salary is over \$100,000. Massage therapists do not have the same earning potential as a pharmacist. Why should we pay more for our licenses?

Massage therapists who have "full time" employment typically do not get paid for a 40 hour work week. We get paid commission on each massage that we do, so if there are no clients/appointments, there's no pay. Many massage therapists do massage as a second job or as an extra source of income. Is it fair to ask someone who's only making \$15,000-\$20,000 a year doing massage to pay \$200 for a license? I think not.

I hope that you will take these points into consideration when making your decision on this matter.

Sincerely,  
Lisa Elder

