

From: Ginny
To: ST. Regulatory Counsel
Subject: #16A-724 (IRRC #3203)
Date: Saturday, July 21, 2018 5:04:33 PM

3203

Ms. Jacqueline A. Wolfgang,

This letter is in response to the increase in application fee and renewal for massage therapist in state of Pa. I live in rural Pa, and don't even come close to the average mean salary of a therapist in bigger areas such as Penn State or Williamsport. I am self employed and I am outraged by the increase that is being proposed on Massage Therapist. In my world, that is a days work, one day of work might not sound like a lot to you but that means less groceries, maybe not being able to pay a utility? Not to mention if I more than double my fee, I would loose every client I had! I understand that fees have not covered costs as expected, but that should not be passed on to therapist. That is poor budgeting on the Boards end. The Board even states in their summery for increase that a "small percentage" of revenues comes from application fees, fines and civil penalties. Excuse me, but isn't that where bulk of the money SHOULD be coming from? After all, wasn't that why the Board was created?? I personally have seen absolutely no benefit to having the Board in the first place. I have heard of people being reported to the Board and never being looked into?

This increase I believe will make honest therapist dishonest. They will not renew, due to cost and take their chances. At this point, I haven't heard of anyone ever being contacted to be audited or fined? This profession is great, but the fees for CE classes for massage therapist are already outrageous. This is one more fee to make the profession unaffordable. Which is a real shame.

Virginia McKisson
Board Certified, LMT

Sent from my iPad

