



Massage & Bodywork Therapists Voluntary Registration

Embraced by clients

A uniform registration process will provide peace of mind for clients that they are working with vetted professionals who are bound to an enforceable standard of conduct. Also, by eliminating the fencing created by city-by-city regulation, it will likely increase the number of service providers available to work in any given area.

Embraced by employers

Voluntary registration will make it much easier for employers to make informed hiring decisions. Participating practitioners would provide a list of their education and certifications to certify their qualifications, as well as submit to a background check. This standard is currently in place in 44 other states, including all of Minnesota's neighboring states.

Embraced by providers

Massage and Bodywork therapy providers currently are very limited in where they can work due to the patchwork of city regulations that implement fees that can be hundreds or even thousands of dollars annually for each city. Many practitioners working in more than one location are currently required to pay fees in every city in which they intend to work. One state credential would dramatically simplify the regulatory burden on this small business profession.

Embraced by local government

Local governments have far too many things on their plate to dedicate the necessary time to crafting and enforcing local regulations on massage and bodywork therapists. The League of Minnesota Cities supports state registration of these providers as Minnesota is one of only six states to burden local governments with the responsibility of regulating these professionals.

Embraced by taxpayers

All of these benefits can be achieved with no cost to the taxpayers. Registration fees will be sufficient to cover the cost of operating the program and the State Board of Nursing has agreed to take on oversight of the process.

Embraced by The State

In 2009, the legislature tasked the Minnesota Council of Health Boards with reviewing the need for this regulatory process. Their report found that there is an, "overall compelling state interest" in regulating this industry to protect public health and safety from the actions of unqualified, unethical, improperly trained practitioners who are not currently proactively regulated.

For More Information Contact:

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