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Amber Minola  
Bill 338

DRHOS  
4/7/03

Good morning and thank you for your time.

I'd like to first address the premise that this bill is needed in order to protect the public. Under sec. 2.2. it indicates that to protect the residents of this state it is necessary to license and regulate the practice of massage therapy. I agree, and although this is a noble idea to my knowledge the current local massage boards are already doing this, making this point moot. Having gone through the process myself I can attest that they are doing an adequate job of weeding out any under qualified candidates; therefore there *is* no eminent danger concerning the "safety" of the residents of this state.

Secondly, this bill suggests that a massage board be set up and appointed by the governor. However, under sec 25 there is no suggested *fee* structure to support this board. It's of great concern to me when the price tag isn't visible! Bottom line - I would just like to know what this is going to cost the individual practitioner.

Lastly and of greatest concern this bill has no grandfather clause to protect the many many currently practicing massage professionals who have already gone through their local licensing procedures and who have already paid their local fees. As this bill stands now, if it were to pass myself and many of my fellow practitioners would not legally be able to practice do to this oversight. Please consider, that in this current economy several of us would needlessly be put out of work.

Thank you

