



General Assembly

January Session, 2007

**Committee Bill No. 140**

LCO No. 5167

\* SB00140GL 030607 \*

Referred to Committee on General Law

Introduced by:  
(GL)

**AN ACT CONCERNING MASSAGE THERAPY.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 20-206b of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2008*):

3 (a) No person shall engage in the practice of massage therapy unless  
4 the person has obtained a license from the department pursuant to this  
5 section. Each person seeking licensure as a massage therapist shall  
6 make application on forms prescribed by the department, pay an  
7 application fee of three hundred dollars and present to the department  
8 satisfactory evidence that the applicant: (1) Has graduated from a  
9 school of massage therapy offering a course of study of not less than  
10 five hundred classroom hours, with the instructor present, and, at the  
11 time of the applicant's graduation, was either (A) accredited by an  
12 agency recognized by the United States Department of Education or by  
13 a state board of postsecondary technical trade and business schools, or  
14 (B) accredited by the Commission on Massage Therapy Accreditation,  
15 and (2) has passed the National Certification Examination for  
16 Therapeutic Massage and Bodywork. Passing scores on the  
17 examination shall be prescribed by the department.

18 (b) Licenses shall be renewed once every two years in accordance  
19 with the provisions of section 19a-88. The fee for renewal shall be two  
20 hundred dollars. No license shall be issued under this section to any  
21 applicant against whom professional disciplinary action is pending or  
22 who is the subject of an unresolved complaint in this or any other state  
23 or jurisdiction. Any certificate granted by the department prior to June  
24 1, 1993, shall be deemed a valid license permitting continuance of  
25 profession subject to the provisions of this chapter.

26 (c) (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this  
27 section, the department may issue a license to an applicant whose  
28 school of massage therapy does not satisfy the requirement of  
29 subparagraph (A) or (B) of subdivision (1) of said subsection (a),  
30 provided the school held, at the time of the applicant's graduation, a  
31 certificate issued by the Commissioner of Education pursuant to  
32 section 10-7b and provided the applicant graduated within thirty-three  
33 months of the date said school first offered the curriculum completed  
34 by the applicant. No license shall be issued under this subsection to a  
35 graduate of a school that fails to apply for and obtain accreditation by  
36 (1) an accrediting agency recognized by the United States Department  
37 of Education, or (2) the Commission on Massage Therapy  
38 Accreditation within thirty-three months of the date said school first  
39 offered the curriculum.

40 (2) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section  
41 and subdivision (1) of this subsection, the department may issue a  
42 license to an applicant who submits evidence satisfactory to the  
43 commissioner that the applicant (A) was enrolled, on or before July 1,  
44 2005, in a school of massage therapy that was approved or accredited  
45 by a state board of postsecondary technical trade and business schools  
46 or a state agency recognized as such state's board of postsecondary  
47 technical trade and business schools, (B) graduated from a school of  
48 massage therapy with a course of study of not less than five hundred  
49 classroom hours, with the instructor present, that at the time of the  
50 applicant's graduation was approved or accredited by a state board of

51 postsecondary technical trade and business schools or a state agency  
52 recognized as such state's board of postsecondary technical trade and  
53 business schools, and (C) has passed the National Certification  
54 Examination for Therapeutic Massage and Bodywork. Passing scores  
55 on the examination shall be prescribed by the department.

56 (d) Each person licensed pursuant to this section has an affirmative  
57 duty to make a written referral to a licensed healing arts practitioner,  
58 as defined in section 20-1, of any client who has any physical or  
59 medical condition that would constitute a contraindication for massage  
60 therapy or that may require evaluation or treatment beyond the scope  
61 of massage therapy.

62 (e) No person shall use the title "Connecticut licensed massage  
63 therapist" or "massage therapist" unless the person holds a license  
64 issued in accordance with this section.

65 (f) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section,  
66 the commissioner may issue a license to an out-of-state applicant who  
67 submits evidence satisfactory to the commissioner of either: (1) (A) A  
68 current license to practice therapeutic massage from another state or  
69 jurisdiction, (B) documentation of practice for at least one year  
70 immediately preceding application, and (C) successful completion of  
71 the National Certification Examination for Therapeutic Massage and  
72 Bodywork; or (2) (A) graduation from a school of massage therapy  
73 offering a course of study of not less than five hundred classroom  
74 hours, with the instructor present, and, at the time of the applicant's  
75 graduation, was either (i) accredited by an agency recognized by the  
76 United States Department of Education or by a state board of  
77 postsecondary technical trade and business schools, or (ii) accredited  
78 by the Commission on Massage Therapy Accreditation, and (B)  
79 successful completion of the National Certification Examination for  
80 Therapeutic Massage and Bodywork.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>January 1, 2008</i>	20-206b
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**GL**      *Joint Favorable*