



Senate Bill No. 140

Public Act No. 07-35

AN ACT CONCERNING MASSAGE THERAPY.

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

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 Section 20-206a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2008*):

As used in subsection (c) of section 19a-14, [and] sections 20-206a to [20-206c] 20-206f, inclusive, and section 3 of this act:

(a) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Public Health.

(b) "Department" means the Department of Public Health.

(c) ["Connecticut licensed massage] "Massage therapist" means a person who has been licensed to practice massage therapy under the provisions of sections 20-206a to [20-206c] 20-206f, inclusive.

(d) "Massage therapy" means the systematic and scientific manipulation and treatment of the soft tissues of the body, by use of pressure, friction, stroking, percussion, kneading, vibration by manual or mechanical means, range of motion and nonspecific stretching. Massage therapy may include the use of oil, ice, hot and cold packs, tub, shower, steam, dry heat, or cabinet baths, for the purpose of, but not limited to, maintaining good health and establishing and

Senate Bill No. 140

maintaining good physical and mental condition. Massage therapy does not encompass diagnosis, the prescribing of drugs or medicines, spinal or other joint manipulations, nor any service or procedure for which a license to practice medicine, chiropractic, natureopathy, physical therapy, or podiatry is required by law.

(e) "Massage" shall have the same meaning as "massage therapy", as defined in subsection (d) of this section.

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 Subsection (e) of section 20-206b of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2008*):

(e) No person shall use the title ["Connecticut licensed massage therapist"] "massage therapist", "licensed massage therapist", "massage practitioner", "massagist", "masseur" or "masseuse", unless the person holds a license issued in accordance with this section or other applicable law.

Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective January 1, 2008*) (a) As used in this section, "advertise" includes, but is not limited to, the issuance of any card, sign or device to any person; causing, permitting or allowing any sign or marking on or in any building, vehicle or structure; advertising in any newspaper or magazine, or the placement of any listing or advertisement in any directory under a classification or heading that includes the words "massage", "massage therapist", "massage therapy" or "massage therapy establishment".

(b) No person, firm, partnership or corporation shall advertise any of the services included in the definition of massage therapy in any manner using the term or title "massage", unless such services are performed by a massage therapist.

(c) Each person who holds a license as a massage therapist shall include his or her license number in any advertisement for such

Senate Bill No. 140

person's massage therapy services that appears in a newspaper, telephone directory or other advertising medium.

(d) It shall be a violation of this section for any person who does not hold a current license as a massage therapist to advertise massage therapy services by using the term "massage", "massage therapist", "licensed massage therapist", "massage practitioner", "massagist", "masseur" or "masseuse".

Sec. 4. Section 20-206d of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2008*):

(a) No provision of this chapter shall be construed to prohibit a student of massage therapy enrolled in a school of massage therapy which satisfies the requirements of section 20-206b, as amended by this act, from performing work as a required component of his or her course of study at such school, provided the student shall not hold himself or herself out as licensed as a massage therapist and shall not receive compensation for such work.

(b) No provision of this chapter shall be construed to prohibit an instructor of massage therapy from demonstrating massage therapy techniques as a component of a course of instruction in a course, seminar or workshop, provided (1) the instruction is under the direct supervision of a licensed massage therapist; (2) the instructor is not a resident of this state; (3) the instructor does not represent himself or herself as a [Connecticut licensed] massage therapist; (4) the instructor is licensed or certified as a massage therapist in his or her home state, territory or country, if such licensure or certification is required; (5) the instructor does not receive compensation for massage therapy services, other than compensation as an instructor; and (6) the demonstrated massage therapy services are available only to persons enrolled in the course, seminar or workshop.

Senate Bill No. 140

(c) No provision of this chapter shall be construed to prohibit an out-of-state massage therapist who (1) is licensed or certified in another state whose standards for licensure or certification are equivalent to or greater than those required in this state, or (2) if licensure or certification is not required in such other state, is a member in good standing of the American Massage Therapy Association, from providing uncompensated massage therapy services during the Special Olympics or similar athletic competitions for persons with disabilities, provided such out-of-state massage therapist (A) does not represent himself or herself to be a [Connecticut licensed] massage therapist; (B) provides massage therapy under the supervision of a [Connecticut licensed] massage therapist; and (C) only provides massage therapy to persons participating in the Special Olympics or similar athletic competitions for persons with disabilities.

Approved May 22, 2007