



Substitute House Bill No. 6243

Public Act No. 13-37

AN ACT CONCERNING THE PRACTICE OF THAI YOGA.

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

Section 1. Section 20-206g of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2013*):

(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", "massage therapy establishment", "shiatsu", "acupressure", "Thai massage", "Thai yoga massage" or "Thai yoga".

(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", "shiatsu", "acupressure", "Thai massage", "Thai yoga massage" or "Thai yoga", except as provided in subsection (e) of this section, unless such services are performed by a massage therapist.

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(c) Each person who holds a license as a massage therapist shall include his or her license number in any advertisement for such 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", "shiatsu", "acupressure", "Thai massage", "Thai yoga massage" or "Thai yoga", except as provided in subsection (e) of this section.

(e) A person who does not hold a current license as a massage therapist but who is registered as a yoga teacher with the Yoga Alliance Registry and has completed two hundred hours of training in Thai yoga may advertise "Thai yoga" services.

Sec. 2. Section 20-206a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2013*):

As used in subsection (c) of section 19a-14, and sections 20-206a to 20-206g, inclusive, as amended by this act:

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

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

(c) "Massage therapist" means a person who has been licensed to practice massage therapy under the provisions of sections 20-206a to 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

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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 maintaining good physical and mental condition. Massage therapy does not encompass (1) diagnosis, the prescribing of drugs or medicines, spinal or other joint manipulations, [nor] (2) any service or procedure for which a license to practice medicine, chiropractic, natureopathy, physical therapy, or podiatry is required by law, or (3) Thai yoga practiced by a person who is registered as a yoga teacher with the Yoga Alliance Registry and has completed two hundred hours of training in Thai yoga.

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

Approved May 28, 2013