

**HB 6243**

March 15, 2013

For Consideration by The Connecticut General Assembly Public Health Committee;

For the record, my name is Thomas Cushman. I am a registered and active voter in the town of Simsbury. I appreciate the opportunity to address HB6243. I am a Connecticut licensed massage therapist and Member of the American Massage Therapy Association. I am active in the Connecticut Chapter of the AMTA and was delighted last year to hear that HB5455 had been passed requiring, among other things, those professionally practicing Thai Yoga in the state of Connecticut to be required to have a Connecticut State massage therapy license. I have received Thai Yoga and it is a hands on process involving massage and bodywork. There is soft tissue manipulation with Thai Yoga which affects many physiology processes. The requirements of obtaining a CT State Massage Therapy License address that education. A certification alone, in my opinion, does not. HB6243 will reopen the loophole for such practices to continue. I can't begin to tell you how important it is that anyone practicing any eastern method of hands on health be required to have a Connecticut massage therapy license for the public at large. I am apposed to HB6243. I am in affirmation with HB5455 as is. Thank you for reading this testimony.

Thomas Cushman,  
Simsbury, CT

CT Massage Therapy License# 006054

American Massage Therapy Association# 225971 National Certification Board for Therapeutic Massage  
and Bodywork#

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