



**State of Connecticut**  
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**MEMBER**  
FINANCE, REVENUE & BONDING COMMITTEE  
ENERGY AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

March 15, 2013

Re: H.B. 6243 AN ACT MAKING A TECHNICAL CHANGE TO THE STATUTE CONCERNING ADVERTISING BY MASSAGE THERAPISTS.

Representative Johnson, Senator Gerratana and members of the Public Health Committee, for the record my name is State Representative Kim Fawcett representing Fairfield's 133rd District and I am submitting testimony in favor of H.B. 6243.

First of all let me say thank you for holding this public hearing and giving me the opportunity to testify on this legislation here today.

This legislation makes a technical change to last year's massage parlor bill PA 12-64. The technical change is to delete the word "thai yoga" from those professions requiring a license in this bill. The word "thai yoga", in the original bill, unfortunately targeted an unintended profession of yoga instructors. This was found not to be applicable to the illegal massage parlor industry.

The goal of the legislation passed last year was to give an aid to municipal authorities in shutting down illegal massage parlors. It was found that when these illegal massage parlors are advertised, they use different terms to describe what they do. The term "thai yoga" was initially thought to be one of these terms, but upon further review, and from discussions with my constituents, "thai yoga" is not used in advertisements for illegal massage parlors. Also, because this term is in the general statutes, law-abiding citizens who make their living teaching and practicing "thai yoga" are being targeted and hurt unfairly.

So I give my full support to this bill that would make the technical change of taking out the term "thai yoga" out of the bill passed last year.

Thank you for your time and consideration of the bill.