To whom

It may concern. I am a Licensed Massage Therapist who is extensively trained in medical, hospice and oncology care. In addition to working at an oncology center and a hospice agency and being a former member of the pain and palliative team at Connecticut Children’s Medical Center, a significant percentage of my private clientele are currently battling cancer, ALS and other life threatening disease.

My patients have found relief from a myriad of issues related to cancer or other terminal diagnoses. These include but are not limited to:

- Reduction in pain
- Improved Range of motion after lumpectomy and mastectomy
- Reduction of edema
- Reduction in opioid use
- Improved sleep
- Improved appetite
- Alleviation of constipation from Opioid use.
- Reduction in nausea
- Reduction of anxiety
- Reduction in depression.
- Reduction in fatigue.
- Reduction in spasticity.

Massage therapy is a critical part of the health and wellness of the patients I’ve been blessed enough to work and is in no way a luxury. Massage therapy is discipline used in medical centers, hospitals, oncology centers and chiropractic and orthopedic care. Taxing this service is not only inappropriate, but will directly effect many of my patients who can scarcely afford these services as it is. Imagine the patients at my oncology center, many of whom can barely pay their bills due to the inability to work, being asked to pay additional tax on a service that to them is in no way a luxury, but a medical necessity?

Taxing massage therapy will have a direct and immediate effect on these services being offered in medical settings.

I hope you will read the studies I have included in this email and will seriously reconsider taxing this very important health care tool.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Yaggi, LMT