Unofficial Copy 1996 Regular Session

(PRE-FILED)

J2 6lr0428

SB 215/95 - EEA

By: Delegates Owings, Hubbard, Menes, Frush, Rosapepe, Goldwater, Hammen,

Klausmeier, Mohorovic, and Hurson Requested: September 20, 1995

Introduced and read first time: January 10, 1996

Assigned to: Environmental Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 State Board of Nursing - Licensure of Massage Therapists

- 4 licensure and practice of massage therapists; defining certain terms; authorizing the
- 5 Board of Nursing to set certain fees; establishing the Massage Therapy Advisory
- 6 Committee within the Board of Nursing; specifying the powers and duties of the
- Advisory Committee; requiring an individual to be licensed by the Board of Nursing
- 8 before the individual may practice massage therapy; making certain exceptions;
- 9 specifying the qualifications for a certain license; authorizing theissuance and
- 10 renewal of a certain license; establishing certain grounds for discipline; providing
- that this Act does not limit the rights of certain individuals to practice certain
- occupations; prohibiting certain acts; making certain exceptions; establishing certain
- penalties; providing for the construction of this Act; requiring theinitial members of
- 14 the Massage Therapy Advisory Committee to be eligible to be licensedunder this
- 15 Act; providing for the effective date of this Act; and generally relating to the
- licensure of individuals to practice massage therapy in this State.
- 17 BY adding to
- 18 Article Health Occupations
- 19 Section 8-7A-01 through 8-7A-10, inclusive, to be under the new subtitle "Subtitle
- 20 7A. Licensure of Massage Therapists"
- 21 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 22 (1994 Replacement Volume and 1995 Supplement)
- 23 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
- 24 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:
- 25 Article Health Occupations
- 26 SUBTITLE 7A. LICENSURE OF MASSAGE THERAPISTS.
- 27 8-7A-01.
- 28 (A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS 29 INDICATED.

1	1 /T	Out /	ADD"	A A DE A DEC	THE	CTATE	DOADD	OF NURSING.
	I (F	5) BU	AKI	MEANS.	IHE	SIAIE	BUARD	OF NUKSING

- 2 (C) "LICENSE" MEANS, UNLESS THE CONTEXT REQUIRES OTHERWISE, A
- 3 LICENSE ISSUED BY THE BOARD TO PRACTICE MASSAGE THERAPY.
- 4 (D) "LICENSED MASSAGE THERAPIST" MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS
- 5 LICENSED BY THE BOARD TO PRACTICE MASSAGE THERAPY.
- 6 (E) "MASSAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE" MEANS THE COMMITTEE
- 7 ESTABLISHED UNDER § 8-7A-04 OF THIS SUBTITLE.
- 8 (F) (1) "MASSAGE THERAPY" MEANS THE MANIPULATION OF SOFT TISSUES
- 9 OF THE BODY BY MANUAL TECHNIQUES INCLUDING EFFLEURAGE, PETRISSAGE,
- 10 TAPOTEMENT, STRETCHING, COMPRESSION, VIBRATION, AND FRICTION, WITH OR
- 11 WITHOUT THE AID OF HEAT LIMITED TO HOT PACKS AND HEATING PADS, COLD
- 12 WATER, OR TOPICAL APPLICATIONS, FOR THE PURPOSE OF IMPROVING
- 13 CIRCULATION, ENHANCING MUSCLE RELAXATION, RELIEVING MUSCULAR PAIN,
- 14 REDUCING STRESS, OR PROMOTING HEALTH AND WELL-BEING.
- 15 (2) "MASSAGE THERAPY" DOES NOT INCLUDE:
- 16 (I) THE DIAGNOSIS OR TREATMENT OF ILLNESS OR DISEASE; OR
- 17 (II) ADJUSTING ANY OF THE ARTICULATIONS OF THE OSSEOUS 18 STRUCTURES OF THE BODY OR SPINE.
- 19 (G) "PRACTICE MASSAGE THERAPY" MEANS TO ENGAGE PROFESSIONALLY
- 20 AND FOR COMPENSATION IN MASSAGE THERAPY WHILE REPRESENTING ONESELF
- 21 TO BE A LICENSED MASSAGE THERAPIST.
- 22 8-7A-02.
- 23 THE BOARD SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS FOR THE LICENSURE AND PRACTICE
- 24 OF MASSAGE THERAPISTS.
- 25 8-7A-03.
- 26 (A) (1) THE BOARD SHALL SET REASONABLE FEES FOR THE ISSUANCE AND
- 27 RENEWAL OF LICENSES AND THE OTHER SERVICES IT PROVIDES TO MASSAGE
- 28 THERAPISTS.
- 29 (2) THE FEES CHARGED SHALL BE SET SO AS TO PRODUCE FUNDS TO
- 30 APPROXIMATE THE COST OF MAINTAINING THE LICENSURE PROGRAM, AND THE
- 31 OTHER SERVICES PROVIDED TO MASSAGE THERAPISTS.
- 32 (B) (1) THE BOARD SHALL PAY ALL FEES COLLECTED UNDER THE
- 33 PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBTITLE TO THE COMPTROLLER OF THE STATE.
- 34 (2) THE COMPTROLLER SHALL DISTRIBUTE ALL FEES TO THE STATE
- 35 BOARD OF NURSING FUND ESTABLISHED UNDER § 8-206 OF THIS TITLE.
- 36 (C) THE FEES SHALL BE USED EXCLUSIVELY TO COVER THE ACTUAL
- 37 DOCUMENTED DIRECT AND INDIRECT COSTS OF FULFILLING THE STATUTORY AND

	1 REGULATORY DUTIES OF THE BOARD AS PROVIDED BY THE PROVISIONS OF THIS 2 SUBTITLE.
	3 8-7A-04.
	4 (A) (1) THERE IS A MASSAGE THERAPY ADVISORY COMMITTEE WITHIN THE 5 BOARD.
	6 (2) THE COMMITTEE SHALL CONSIST OF FIVE MEMBERS APPOINTED BY 7 THE BOARD.
	8 (3) OF THE FIVE MEMBERS:
	9 (I) TWO SHALL BE REGISTERED NURSES WHO ARE ALSO 0 LICENSED MASSAGE THERAPISTS; AND
]	1 (II) THREE SHALL BE LICENSED MASSAGE THERAPISTS.
	2 (B) IN ADDITION TO THE POWERS AND DUTIES SET FORTH ELSEWHERE IN 3 THIS SUBTITLE, THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE SHALL:
	4 (1) DEVELOP AND RECOMMEND REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT THE 5 PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBTITLE;
	6 (2) DEVELOP AND RECOMMEND A CODE OF ETHICS FOR THE PRACTICE 7 OF MASSAGE THERAPY FOR ADOPTION BY THE BOARD;
	8 (3) DEVELOP AND RECOMMEND THE REQUIREMENTS FOR LICENSURE 9 AS A MASSAGE THERAPIST;
2	(4) EVALUATE THE CREDENTIALS OF APPLICANTS AND RECOMMEND LI LICENSURE OF APPLICANTS WHO FULFILL THE REQUIREMENTS FOR A LICENSE TO PRACTICE MASSAGE THERAPY;
2	(5) CONSIDER COMPLAINTS BROUGHT TO THE BOARD INVOLVING LICENSED MASSAGE THERAPISTS AND RECOMMEND TO THE BOARD THE APPROPRIATE DISCIPLINARY ACTION;
	(6) EVALUATE EDUCATION PROGRAMS IN MASSAGE THERAPY FOR APPROVAL BY THE BOARD;
2	(7) KEEP A RECORD OF ITS PROCEEDINGS; AND
2	(8) SUBMIT AN ANNUAL REPORT TO THE BOARD.
3	30 8-7A-05.
3	(A) (1) EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN THIS SUBTITLE, AN INDIVIDUAL SHALL BE LICENSED BY THE BOARD BEFORE THE INDIVIDUAL MAY PRACTICE MASSAGE THERAPY IN THIS STATE.
3	(2) THIS SECTION DOES NOT APPLY TO:
3	(I) A STUDENT ENROLLED IN AN APPROVED EDUCATION

36 PROGRAM WHILE PRACTICING MASSAGE THERAPY IN THAT PROGRAM; OR

4
4

1 2	(II) AN INDIVIDUAL PERMITTED TO PRACTICE MASSAGE THERAPY UNDER REGULATIONS ADOPTED BY THE BOARD, IF THE INDIVIDUAL:
	1. OTHERWISE HAS QUALIFIED TO PRACTICE MASSAGE THERAPY IN ANY OTHER STATE OR COUNTRY AND IS IN THIS STATE FOR NO MORE THAN 7 DAYS; OR
8	2. HAS AN APPLICATION FOR A LICENSE PENDING BEFORE THE BOARD BUT HAS NOT TAKEN THE EXAMINATION REQUIRED UNDER THIS SECTION OR HAS TAKEN AN EXAMINATION UNDER THIS SECTION, BUT THE RESULTS OF THE EXAMINATION ARE NOT YET KNOWN.
10 11	(B) TO QUALIFY FOR A LICENSE, AN APPLICANT SHALL BE AN INDIVIDUAL WHO MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION.
12	(C) THE APPLICANT MUST BE OF GOOD MORAL CHARACTER.
13	(D) THE APPLICANT MUST BE AT LEAST 18 YEARS OLD.
16	(E) AFTER JANUARY 1, 2000, THE APPLICANT SHALL HAVE SATISFACTORILY COMPLETED AT LEAST 60 CREDIT HOURS OF EDUCATION AT AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION AS DEFINED IN § 10-101 OF THE EDUCATION ARTICLE AND AS APPROVED BY THE BOARD.
18 19	(F) THE APPLICANT FOR LICENSURE AS A LICENSED MASSAGE THERAPIST SHALL:
	(1) COMPLETE 500 HOURS OF EDUCATION IN A BOARD APPROVED PROGRAM FOR THE STUDY OF MASSAGE THERAPY THAT INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING AREAS OF CONTENT:
23	(I) ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY;
24	(II) MASSAGE THEORY, TECHNIQUES, AND PRACTICE;
25	(III) CONTRAINDICATIONS TO MASSAGE THERAPY; AND
26	(IV) PROFESSIONAL ETHICS; AND
27	(2) PASS AN EXAMINATION APPROVED BY THE BOARD.
	(G) (1) SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS OF PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE BOARD MAY WAIVE ANY OF THE QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED FOR A LICENSE UNDER THIS SUBTITLE FOR AN APPLICANT WHO:
31	(I) PAYS THE APPLICATION FEE SET BY THE BOARD;
	(II) PROVIDES EVIDENCE ACCEPTABLE TO THE BOARD THAT THE APPLICANT HAS PRACTICED MASSAGE THERAPY FOR AT LEAST A TOTAL OF 2 YEARS AFTER OCTOBER 1, 1994 AND BEFORE OCTOBER 1, 1999; AND
35 36	(III) 1. COMPLETES A BOARD APPROVED PROGRAM IN THE STUDY OF MASSAGE THERAPY; OR

37

1 2	(2) THE AUTHORITY OF THE BOARD TO GRANT A WAIVER UNDER THIS SUBSECTION SHALL TERMINATE ON JANUARY 1, 2000.
5	(H) (1) SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE BOARD MAY WAIVE ANY REQUIREMENT OF THIS SUBTITLE FOR AN APPLICANT WHO IS REGISTERED, CERTIFIED, OR LICENSED TO PRACTICE MASSAGE THERAPY IN ANOTHER STATE.
7 8	(2) THE BOARD MAY GRANT A WAIVER UNDER THIS SUBSECTION ONLY IF THE APPLICANT:
9	(I) PAYS THE APPLICATION FEE SET BY THE BOARD; AND
10	(II) PROVIDES ADEQUATE EVIDENCE THAT THE APPLICANT:
	1. HAS COMPLETED EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS THAT THE BOARD DETERMINES TO BE EQUIVALENT TO THE BOARD APPROVED EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS IN THIS STATE; AND
16	2. AT THE TIME THE APPLICANT BECAME CERTIFIED, REGISTERED, OR LICENSED IN THE OTHER STATE, PASSED IN THAT STATE OR ANY OTHER STATE AN EXAMINATION THAT THE BOARD DETERMINES TO BE EQUIVALENT TO THE EXAMINATION REQUIRED IN THIS STATE; AND
18	3. IS OF GOOD MORAL CHARACTER.
19	8-7A-06.
20	TO APPLY FOR A LICENSE, AN APPLICANT SHALL:
21 22	(1) SUBMIT TO THE BOARD AN APPLICATION ON THE FORM THAT THE BOARD REQUIRES;
23 24	(2) SUBMIT TO THE BOARD EVIDENCE OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF \S 8-7A-05 OF THIS SUBTITLE; AND
25	(3) PAY THE APPLICATION FEE SET BY THE BOARD.
26	8-7A-07.
	(A) A LICENSE EXPIRES ON THE 28TH DAY OF THE BIRTH MONTH OF THE LICENSEE, UNLESS THE LICENSE IS RENEWED FOR A 2-YEAR TERM AS PROVIDED IN THIS SECTION.
	(B) AT LEAST 1 MONTH BEFORE THE LICENSE EXPIRES, THE BOARD SHALL SEND TO THE LICENSE HOLDER, BY FIRST CLASS MAIL TO THE LAST KNOWN ADDRESS OF THE LICENSE HOLDER, A RENEWAL NOTICE THAT STATES:
33	(1) THE DATE ON WHICH THE CURRENT LICENSE EXPIRES;
	(2) THE DATE BY WHICH THE RENEWAL APPLICATION MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE BOARD FOR THE RENEWAL TO BE ISSUED AND MAILED BEFORE THE LICENSE EXPIRES; AND

(3) THE AMOUNT OF THE RENEWAL FEE.

1 2	(C) BEFORE A LICENSE EXPIRES, THE LICENSE HOLDER PERIODICALLY MAY RENEW IT FOR AN ADDITIONAL TERM, IF THE LICENSE HOLDER:
3	(1) OTHERWISE IS ENTITLED TO BE LICENSED;
4 5	(2) SUBMITS TO THE BOARD A RENEWAL APPLICATION ON THE FORM THAT THE BOARD REQUIRES; AND
6	(3) PAYS TO THE BOARD A RENEWAL FEE SET BY THE BOARD.
	(D) (1) EACH LICENSE HOLDER SHALL NOTIFY THE BOARD IN WRITING OF ANY CHANGE IN THE NAME OR ADDRESS OF THE LICENSE HOLDER WITHIN 60 DAYS AFTER THE CHANGE OCCURRED.
12	(2) IF A LICENSE HOLDER FAILS TO NOTIFY THE BOARD WITHIN THE TIME REQUIRED UNDER THIS SUBSECTION, SUBJECT TO THE HEARING PROVISIONS OF \S 8-317 OF THIS TITLE, THE BOARD MAY IMPOSE AN ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTY OF \S 100.
14 15	(E) THE BOARD SHALL RENEW THE LICENSE OF EACH LICENSE HOLDER WHO MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION.
16	8-7A-08.
19	(A) SUBJECT TO THE HEARING PROVISIONS OF § 8-317 OF THIS TITLE, THE BOARD MAY DENY A LICENSE TO ANY APPLICANT, REPRIMAND ANY LICENSE HOLDER, PLACE ANY LICENSE HOLDER ON PROBATION, OR SUSPEND OR REVOKE THE LICENSE OF A LICENSE HOLDER IF THE APPLICANT OR LICENSE HOLDER:
21 22	(1) FRAUDULENTLY OR DECEPTIVELY OBTAINS OR ATTEMPTS TO OBTAIN A LICENSE FOR THE APPLICANT OR FOR ANOTHER;
23	(2) FRAUDULENTLY OR DECEPTIVELY USES A LICENSE;
26	(3) IS DISCIPLINED BY A LICENSING OR DISCIPLINARY AUTHORITY OF ANY OTHER STATE OR COUNTRY OR CONVICTED OR DISCIPLINED BY A COURT OF ANY STATE OR COUNTRY FOR AN ACT THAT WOULD BE GROUNDS FOR DISCIPLINARY ACTION UNDER THIS SECTION;
30	(4) IS CONVICTED OF OR PLEADS GUILTY OR NOLO CONTENDERE TO A FELONY OR TO A CRIME INVOLVING MORAL TURPITUDE, WHETHER OR NOT ANY APPEAL OR OTHER PROCEEDING IS PENDING TO HAVE THE CONVICTION OR PLEA SET ASIDE;
32	(5) WILLFULLY AND KNOWINGLY:
33 34	(I) FILES A FALSE REPORT OR RECORD OF AN INDIVIDUAL UNDER THE CARE OF THE LICENSE HOLDER; OR
35 36	(II) GIVES ANY FALSE OR MISLEADING INFORMATION ABOUT A MATERIAL MATTER IN AN EMPLOYMENT APPLICATION;

	(6) KNOWINGLY DOES ANY ACT THAT HAS BEEN DETERMINED BY THE BOARD, IN ITS REGULATIONS, TO EXCEED THE SCOPE OF PRACTICE AUTHORIZED TO THE INDIVIDUAL UNDER THIS SUBTITLE;
4	(7) PROVIDES PROFESSIONAL SERVICES WHILE:
5	(I) UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF ALCOHOL; OR
	(II) USING ANY NARCOTIC OR CONTROLLED DANGEROUS SUBSTANCE, AS DEFINED IN ARTICLE 27 OF THE CODE, OR OTHER DRUG THAT IS IN EXCESS OF THERAPEUTIC AMOUNTS OR WITHOUT VALID MEDICAL INDICATION;
9 10	(8) DOES AN ACT THAT IS INCONSISTENT WITH GENERALLY ACCEPTED PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS IN THE PRACTICE OF MASSAGE THERAPY;
11	(9) IS NEGLIGENT IN THE PRACTICE OF MASSAGE THERAPY;
12	(10) IS PROFESSIONALLY INCOMPETENT;
13	(11) HAS VIOLATED ANY PROVISION OF THIS SUBTITLE;
14	(12) SUBMITS A FALSE STATEMENT TO COLLECT A FEE;
15	(13) IS PHYSICALLY OR MENTALLY INCOMPETENT;
16 17	(14) KNOWINGLY FAILS TO REPORT SUSPECTED CHILD ABUSE IN VIOLATION OF \S 5-704 OF THE FAMILY LAW ARTICLE;
20	(15) REFUSES, WITHHOLDS FROM, DENIES, OR DISCRIMINATES AGAINST AN INDIVIDUAL WITH REGARD TO THE PROVISION OF PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FOR WHICH THE LICENSE HOLDER IS QUALIFIED TO RENDER BECAUSE THE INDIVIDUAL IS HIV POSITIVE;
	(16) EXCEPT IN AN EMERGENCY LIFE-THREATENING SITUATION WHERE IT IS NOT FEASIBLE OR PRACTICABLE, FAILS TO COMPLY WITH THE CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL'S GUIDELINES ON UNIVERSAL PRECAUTIONS;
25	(17) IS HABITUALLY INTOXICATED;
26 27	(18) IS ADDICTED TO, OR HABITUALLY ABUSES, ANY NARCOTIC OR CONTROLLED DANGEROUS SUBSTANCE AS DEFINED IN ARTICLE 27 OF THE CODE;
28 29	(19) FAILS TO COOPERATE WITH A LAWFUL INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED BY THE BOARD;
30 31	(20) ENGAGES IN CONDUCT THAT VIOLATES THE PROFESSIONAL CODE OF ETHICS; OR
32 33	(21) KNOWINGLY DOES AN ACT THAT HAS BEEN DETERMINED BY THE BOARD TO BE A VIOLATION OF THE BOARD'S REGULATIONS.
	(B) IF, AFTER A HEARING UNDER § 8-317 OF THIS TITLE, THE BOARD FINDS THAT THERE ARE GROUNDS UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION TO SUSPEND OR REVOKE A LICENSE TO PRACTICE MASSAGE THERAPY, TO REPRIMAND A

37 LICENSE HOLDER, OR PLACE A LICENSE HOLDER ON PROBATION, THE BOARD MAY

- 1 IMPOSE A PENALTY NOT EXCEEDING \$5,000 IN LIEU OF OR IN ADDITION TO
- 2 SUSPENDING OR REVOKING THE LICENSE, REPRIMANDING THE LICENSE HOLDER,
- 3 OR PLACING THE LICENSE HOLDER ON PROBATION.
- 4 (C) (1) AN INDIVIDUAL WHOSE LICENSE HAS BEEN SUSPENDED OR
- 5 REVOKED BY THE BOARD SHALL RETURN THE LICENSE TO THE BOARD.
- 6 (2) IF THE SUSPENDED OR REVOKED LICENSE HAS BEEN LOST, THE
- 7 INDIVIDUAL SHALL FILE WITH THE BOARD A VERIFIED STATEMENT TO THAT
- 8 EFFECT.
- 9 (D) THE BOARD SHALL FILE A NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION IN THE EARLIEST
- 10 PUBLICATION OF THE MARYLAND REGISTER OF EACH REVOCATION OR
- 11 SUSPENSION OF A LICENSE UNDER THIS SECTION WITHIN 24 HOURS OF THE
- 12 REVOCATION OR SUSPENSION.
- 13 8-7A-09.
- 14 THIS SUBTITLE DOES NOT LIMIT THE RIGHT OF AN INDIVIDUAL TO PRACTICE
- 15 OR ADVERTISE AN OCCUPATION THAT THE INDIVIDUAL IS OTHERWISE
- 16 AUTHORIZED TO PRACTICE UNDER THE MARYLAND ANNOTATED CODE.
- 17 8-7A-10.
- 18 (A) (1) EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS
- 19 SECTION, AN INDIVIDUAL MAY NOT PRACTICE, ATTEMPT TO PRACTICE, OR OFFER
- 20 TO PRACTICE MASSAGE THERAPY IN THIS STATE UNLESS LICENSED BY THE BOARD.
- 21 (2) AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS NOT LICENSED AS A LICENSED MASSAGE
- 22 THERAPIST UNDER THIS SUBTITLE MAY NOT ADVERTISE OR CLAIM BY TITLE,
- 23 ABBREVIATION, SIGN, CARD, OR ANY OTHER REPRESENTATION THAT THE
- 24 INDIVIDUAL PRACTICES MASSAGE, MASSAGE THERAPY, MYOTHERAPY, OR ANY
- 25 SYNONYM OR DERIVATION OF THESE TERMS.
- 26 (3) ANY INDIVIDUAL WHO VIOLATES A PROVISION OF THIS SUBSECTION
- 27 IS GUILTY OF A MISDEMEANOR AND ON CONVICTION SHALL BE SUBJECT TO A FINE
- 28 NOT EXCEEDING \$5,000 OR IMPRISONMENT FOR NOT MORE THAN 1 YEAR, OR BOTH.
- 29 (B) THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS MAY PRACTICE MASSAGE THERAPY IN
- 30 THIS STATE WITHOUT A LICENSE:
- 31 (1) A STUDENT ENROLLED IN A BOARD APPROVED EDUCATION
- 32 PROGRAM WHILE PRACTICING MASSAGE THERAPY IN THE PROGRAM;
- 33 (2) A FAMILY MEMBER PRACTICING MASSAGE THERAPY ON ANOTHER
- 34 FAMILY MEMBER;
- 35 (3) AN ATHLETIC TRAINER WHILE FUNCTIONING IN THE COURSE OF
- 36 THE ATHLETIC TRAINER'S PROFESSIONAL CAPACITY; AND
- 37 (4) AN INDIVIDUAL EMPLOYED BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO
- 38 PRACTICE MASSAGE THERAPY WHILE PRACTICING WITHIN THE SCOPE OF THE
- 39 INDIVIDUAL'S EMPLOYMENT.

- 1 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That nothing in this Act may be
- 2 construed to require a nonprofit health service plan, an insurer, health maintenance
- 3 organization, or person acting as a third party administrator to reimburse a licensed
- 4 massage therapist for any services rendered.
- 5 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the initial members of the
- 6 Massage Therapy Advisory Committee appointed in accordance with § 8-7A-04 of this
- 7 Act shall be eligible to be certified under the provisions of § 8-7A-05of this Act.
- 8 SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the changes to the Health
- 9 Occupations Article made by §§ 8-7A-01, 8-7A-02, 8-7A-03, and 8-7A-04 shall take
- 10 effect October 1, 1996, and the changes to the Health Occupations Article made by §§
- $11\ \ 8\text{-}7A\text{-}05,\ 8\text{-}7A\text{-}06,\ 8\text{-}7A\text{-}07,\ 8\text{-}7A\text{-}08,\ 8\text{-}7A\text{-}09,\ and\ 8\text{-}7A\text{-}10\ shall\ take\ effect\ January}$
- 12 1, 1998.