



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the _____House Labor and Commerce_ Committee

on _____HB328_____ dated _____03072014_____.

As a nontraditionally trained massage therapist practicing for the last 38 years in medical and chiropractic settings) I totally support legislation to regulate massage therapists. I am a business owner and practitioner. I have seen many people that have "hung up" their shingle stating that they are massage therapists and they have no knowledge in what they are doing. They are providing services that could actually harm or endanger someone.

There are no precautions, or ethics, much less consistency in skills. We need consistency in our profession and credibility. Recognition in our profession has exploded and is now recognized by the medical profession and insurance companies. Reimbursement by insurance companies often requires licensing of massage therapist to support the consistency in services. With Alaska (the state) not regulating and licensing the profession, insurance companies are denying claims and services that are supported by the patients' medical providers saying the services are not covered due to not being provided by a licensed therapist. This is therefore denying medical care to the residence of Alaska.

Please consider passing this bill to benefit and support all Alaskans and the profession of Massage Therapy.

I may be contacted at my office or cell phone and would be available to answer questions.

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