



amta
american **massage therapy** association®

Alaska Chapter

The Alaska Massage Therapy Association – Alaska Chapter (AK-AMTA), supports licensure of massage therapists in Alaska. Currently there are only six states (including Alaska) that do not have a comprehensive statewide licensure requirement for massage therapists. Licensure of Alaska’s massage therapists enhances public safety, and promotes small business development.

Massage therapists in Alaska are only regulated at a local level, and only in Anchorage, Fairbanks, Palmer and Valdez. Statewide licensure provides the public with the knowledge that their massage therapist has been properly trained, and is current with their continuing education. Licensure also provides a way to discipline individuals that claim to be massage therapists, but are not properly trained or licensed.

Licensure will also provide massage therapists with the ability to bill insurance directly, allowing small, independent massage therapy practices to grow.

During 2013, a coalition of massage therapists coordinated several meetings, and conducted a survey of massage therapists in Alaska. The survey showed overwhelming support among massage therapist for licensure in the state.

Mindy Jurik
President AMTA-AK