
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU IN CONSULTATION WITH THE STATE BOARD OF MASSAGE THERAPY TO STUDY MASSAGE THERAPY LICENSURE STANDARDS AND PROCEDURES OF OTHER STATES AND WHETHER HAWAII'S LAWS PREVENT QUALIFIED MASSAGE THERAPISTS EDUCATED AND TRAINED IN ANOTHER STATE FROM PRACTICING IN HAWAII.

1 WHEREAS, massage is one of the oldest of healing arts and
2 the health benefits of massage are well accepted, varied, and
3 far-reaching; and
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5 WHEREAS, massage therapy is an essential part of Hawaii's
6 health and wellness tourism industry and massage therapists also
7 provide needed health care services to Hawaii's residents; and
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9 WHEREAS, ensuring the availability of well-trained and
10 experienced massage therapists, licensed and ready to provide
11 services to the community, would improve health care services in
12 the state and strengthen our health and wellness industry; and
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14 WHEREAS, questions have been raised as to whether the
15 standards and procedures for massage therapist licensure do not
16 adequately recognize training and experience gained outside of
17 the state and prevent qualified massage therapists educated and
18 trained in another state from practicing in Hawaii; and
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20 WHEREAS, to determine whether this is the case, more
21 information is needed to allow a comparison between Hawaii's
22 standards and procedures for massage therapist licensure, and
23 those of other states; now, therefore,
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25 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
26 Twenty-fifth Legislature, Regular Session of 2009, that the
27 Legislative Reference Bureau, in consultation with the State
28 Board of Massage Therapy, is requested to:



- 1 (1) Study the standards and procedures of other states for
- 2 massage therapist licensure, including any provisions
- 3 for reciprocity with other states;
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- 5 (2) Compare the standards and procedures of other states
- 6 with those under Chapter 452, Hawaii Revised Statutes,
- 7 to determine whether Hawaii's standards and procedures
- 8 prevent qualified massage therapists educated and
- 9 trained in another state from becoming licensed in
- 10 Hawaii; and
- 11
- 12 (3) Report its conclusions and recommendations, including
- 13 proposed legislation, if any, to the Legislature not
- 14 later than 20 days prior to the convening of the 2010
- 15 Regular Session;

16 and

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19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
20 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of the Legislative
21 Reference Bureau and the Chairperson of the State Board of
22 Massage Therapy.

23 OFFERED BY:

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