

1-1 By: Rose (Senate Sponsor - West) H.B. No. 2644
1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 14, 2007;
1-3 May 15, 2007, read first time and referred to Committee on Health
1-4 and Human Services; May 18, 2007, reported favorably by the
1-5 following vote: Yeas 6, Nays 0; May 18, 2007, sent to printer.)

1-6 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-7 AN ACT

1-8 relating to the requirements for a massage therapist license.

1-9 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-10 SECTION 1. Section 455.156(b), Occupations Code, is amended
1-11 to read as follows:

1-12 (b) An applicant for a license under this section must be an
1-13 individual and:

1-14 (1) present evidence satisfactory to the department
1-15 that the person~~+~~

1-16 ~~[(A)]~~ has satisfactorily completed massage
1-17 therapy studies in a 500-hour minimum ~~[300-hour]~~, supervised course
1-18 of instruction provided by a massage therapy instructor at a
1-19 massage school, a licensed massage school, a state-approved
1-20 educational institution, or any combination of instructors or
1-21 schools, in which at least:

1-22 (A) 200 ~~[(i) 125]~~ hours are taught by a licensed
1-23 massage therapy instructor and dedicated to the study of massage
1-24 therapy techniques and theory and the practice of manipulation of
1-25 soft tissue, with at least 125 hours dedicated to the study of
1-26 Swedish massage therapy techniques ~~[and taught by a massage therapy~~
1-27 ~~instructor]~~;

1-28 (B) [(ii)] 50 hours are dedicated to the study of
1-29 anatomy;

1-30 (C) [(iii)] 25 hours are dedicated to the study
1-31 of physiology;

1-32 (D) 50 hours are dedicated to the study of
1-33 kinesiology;

1-34 (E) 40 hours are dedicated to the study of
1-35 pathology;

1-36 (F) 20 ~~[(iv) 15]~~ hours are dedicated to the
1-37 study of hydrotherapy;

1-38 (G) 45 ~~[(v) 15]~~ hours are dedicated to the study
1-39 of massage therapy laws and rules, business practices, and
1-40 professional ethics standards;

1-41 (H) [(vi)] 20 hours are dedicated to the study of
1-42 health, ~~[and]~~ hygiene, first aid, universal precautions, and
1-43 cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR); and

1-44 (I) [(vii)] 50 hours are spent in an internship
1-45 program; ~~[or~~

1-46 ~~[(B) has practiced massage therapy as a~~
1-47 ~~profession for not less than five years in another state or country~~
1-48 ~~that the department determines does not maintain standards and~~
1-49 ~~requirements of practice and licensing or registration that~~
1-50 ~~substantially conform to the standards and requirements of this~~
1-51 ~~state.]~~

1-52 (2) pass the ~~[practical and]~~ written ~~[portions of the]~~
1-53 state examination; and

1-54 (3) be at least 18 years of age.

1-55 SECTION 2. Except as provided by Section 3 of this Act, the
1-56 changes in law made by this Act to Section 455.156, Occupations
1-57 Code, apply only to a license applicant who enrolls in a massage
1-58 therapist training program for the first time on or after the
1-59 effective date of this Act. An applicant who enrolled in a massage
1-60 therapist training program for the first time before that date is
1-61 governed by the law in effect immediately before the effective date
1-62 of this Act, and the former law is continued in effect for that
1-63 purpose.

1-64 SECTION 3. The change in law made by this Act by the

2-1 deletion of former Section 455.156(b)(1)(B), Occupations Code,
2-2 applies only to an application for a license filed on or after the
2-3 effective date of this Act. A license application filed before that
2-4 date is governed by the law in effect at the time the application is
2-5 filed, and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose.
2-6 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect January 1, 2008.

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