

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5621

57th Legislature
2001 Regular Session

Passed by the Senate April 17, 2001
YEAS 46 NAYS 3

President of the Senate

Passed by the House April 10, 2001
YEAS 95 NAYS 0

**Speaker of the
House of Representatives**

**Speaker of the
House of Representatives**

Approved

Governor of the State of Washington

CERTIFICATE

I, Tony M. Cook, Secretary of the Senate of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5621** as passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives on the dates hereon set forth.

Secretary

FILED

**Secretary of State
State of Washington**

SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5621

AS AMENDED BY THE HOUSE

Passed Legislature - 2001 Regular Session

State of Washington 57th Legislature 2001 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on Agriculture & International Trade (originally sponsored by Senators Rasmussen, Sheahan, Shin, Roach, Constantine, Patterson, Prentice, Thibaudeau and Kohl-Welles)

READ FIRST TIME 02/23/01.

1 AN ACT Relating to animal therapy; amending RCW 18.108.010; adding
2 a new section to chapter 18.108 RCW; and creating a new section.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that massage
5 therapists have contributed significantly to the welfare of humans.
6 The legislature also finds that massage therapists can have a
7 significant positive impact on the well-being of animals, especially in
8 the equine industry.

9 It is the legislature's intent to have the Washington state board
10 of massage adopt rules under their current authority providing for an
11 endorsement for currently licensed massage practitioners to perform
12 animal massage upon completion of certain training courses.

13 **Sec. 2.** RCW 18.108.010 and 1997 c 297 s 2 are each amended to read
14 as follows:

15 In this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires, the
16 following meanings shall apply:

17 (1) "Board" means the Washington state board of massage.

1 (2) "Massage" and "massage therapy" mean a health care service
2 involving the external manipulation or pressure of soft tissue for
3 therapeutic purposes. Massage therapy includes techniques such as
4 tapping, compressions, friction, Swedish gymnastics or movements,
5 gliding, kneading, shaking, and facial or connective tissue stretching,
6 with or without the aids of superficial heat, cold, water, lubricants,
7 or salts. Massage therapy does not include diagnosis or attempts to
8 adjust or manipulate any articulations of the body or spine or
9 mobilization of these articulations by the use of a thrusting force,
10 nor does it include genital manipulation.

11 (3) "Massage practitioner" means an individual licensed under this
12 chapter.

13 (4) "Secretary" means the secretary of health or the secretary's
14 designee.

15 (5) "Massage business" means the operation of a business where
16 massages are given.

17 (6) "Animal massage practitioner" means an individual with a
18 license to practice massage therapy in this state with additional
19 training in animal therapy.

20 NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. A new section is added to chapter 18.108 RCW
21 to read as follows:

22 (1) A massage practitioner licensed under this chapter may apply
23 for an endorsement as a small or large animal massage practitioner upon
24 completion of one hundred hours of training in either large or small
25 animal massage. Training must include animal massage techniques,
26 kinesiology, anatomy, physiology, first aid care, and proper handling
27 techniques.

28 (2) An applicant who applies for an endorsement within the first
29 year following the effective date of this act may submit documentation
30 of a minimum of fifty hours of training with up to fifty hours of
31 practical experience or continuing education, or a combination thereof,
32 to fulfill the requirements of this section.

33 (3) Massage therapy of animals does not include diagnosis,
34 prognosis, or all treatment of diseases, deformities, defects, wounds,
35 or injuries of animals. For the purposes of this section, massage for
36 therapeutic purposes may be performed solely for purposes of patient
37 well-being.

1 (4) A person licensed and endorsed under this section may hold
2 themselves out as an animal massage practitioner.

3 (5) The board may adopt rules to implement this section upon
4 consultation with the Washington state veterinary board of governors
5 and licensed massage practitioners with training in animal massage.

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