
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1189

State of Washington 65th Legislature 2017 Regular Session

By House Health Care & Wellness (originally sponsored by Representatives Short, Cody, Schmick, and Kloba)

READ FIRST TIME 01/27/17.

1 AN ACT Relating to clarifying existing exemptions from the
2 massage therapy law; and amending RCW 18.108.050.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 18.108.050 and 2012 c 137 s 8 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 This chapter does not apply to:

7 (1) An individual giving massage or reflexology to members of his
8 or her immediate family;

9 (2) The practice of a profession by individuals who are licensed,
10 certified, or registered under other laws of this state and who are
11 performing services within their authorized scope of practice;

12 (3) Massage or reflexology practiced at the athletic department
13 of:

14 (a) Any institution maintained by the public funds of the state,
15 or any of its political subdivisions;

16 (b) Any primary or secondary school or institution of higher
17 education;

18 (c) Any school or college approved by the department of health by
19 rule using recognized national professional standards; or

20 (d) Any nonprofit organization licensed under RCW 66.24.400 and
21 66.24.450;

1 (4) Students enrolled in an approved massage school, approved
2 program, or approved apprenticeship program, practicing massage
3 techniques, incidental to the massage school or program and
4 supervised by the approved school or program. Students must identify
5 themselves as a student when performing massage services on members
6 of the public. Students may not be compensated for the massage
7 services they provide;

8 (5) Students enrolled in an approved reflexology school, approved
9 program, or approved apprenticeship program, practicing reflexology
10 techniques, incidental to the reflexologist school or program and
11 supervised by the approved school or program. Students must identify
12 themselves as a student when performing reflexology services on
13 members of the public. Students may not be compensated for the
14 reflexology services they provide; or

15 (6)(a) Individuals who have completed a somatic education
16 training program approved by the secretary.

17 (b) For purposes of this subsection (6), "somatic education"
18 means: Using minimal touch, words, and directed movement to deepen
19 awareness of existing patterns of movement and suggest new
20 possibilities of movement; and using minimal touch over specific
21 points of the body to facilitate balance in the nervous system. It
22 includes: (i) Any somatic education training program approved by the
23 secretary as of the effective date of this section; (ii) the practice
24 of ortho-bionomy; and (iii) the Feldenkrais method of somatic
25 education.

--- END ---