

December 15, 2020

Subject: Decrease of massage hours to become a certified LMT

To Whom it may concern:

Hello, my name is Chad Warner and I am the owner of a large massage franchise in Ohio. It has come to my attention that the Senate has put forth a bill that would decrease the hours required to become a licensed massage therapist (LMT) in Ohio. On the surface this might seem like a good idea but below are some concerns to take into consideration.

- While there is a huge need for many more qualified therapists the individual needs both the textbook learning and the hands-on time to become employable once they graduate. By reducing the hours which reduces the hands-on time the individual may be forced to learn outside of the school environment which in my opinion is not optimal.
- By reducing hours, the individual may not be able to secure full time financing to attend school and start their career as quickly thus creating a higher drop out rate.
- LMT's in Ohio are more qualified as they come out of school than other states because of the additional hours and hands-on time.
- While lower hours may or may not increase the number of therapists in Ohio it will certainly create a less experienced graduate which creates its own set of issues including injuries to clients, fewer placed graduates (while we can work with new graduates and have training protocols many businesses would simply not hire a LMT who gives a bad massage in the interview).

Please let me know if there are further questions or I can help in any way.

Chad Warner,



Managing Member/Warner Massage Clinics LLC