

Ed Gutfreund

Testimony for HB81 Meeting on May 26, 2021

I am a licensed massage therapist since 1988 and am also licensed as a Licensed Professional clinical counselor by the Ohio CSWMFT Board since 2001.

I taught for 15 years at SHI School of Massage as a senior faculty instructor in Lebanon, and I have been an adjunct faculty member of Xavier University teaching courses on Recovery from Trauma, and Courses in Body-orientation in psychotherapy. I maintain a private practice in Cincinnati since 2002.

During my career I have had association with both Trager and Feldenkrais practitioners as colleagues and friends, and I have taken some courses in both of those methods. I commonly refer my therapy clients to local practitioners for the expertise that may serve the healing needs of these clients. I have experienced this therapeutic work for my own health.

In my association with the local practitioners I have, without exception, found them to uphold the highest ethical standards and to have skills that often go beyond what basic massage school curriculum provide. In the trainings I experienced there was always highest regard for clients safety and well-being. Their respect for client's sensitivities due to trauma histories or injury recovery is always impressive, and I would consider them to be valuable colleagues to work collaboratively with any of my clients.

It would be an enormous loss to the local community within Ohio if they were required to take on the added expense and time to do additional training to provide their services. They have what they need to do quality professional work in a most respectful fashion.