

Honorable Representatives Plummer, Manchester, et al.

Regarding House Bill 81 (HB81) in the 134th General Assembly

I practice Asian Bodywork Therapy as a Certified Practitioner, and my work falls within what is currently defined as Massage under this bill. I have over 600 hours of training from schools within the Council of Schools and Programs of the AOBTA, and I know that several Ohioans would like to be able to practice under this bill.

Please add the list of certified and vetted COSP schools to your existing list, as none of the schools on it currently teach or plan to teach ABT <https://www.med.ohio.gov/Apply/Massage-Therapist-MT>.

A bit of information about the certification and vetting of ABT schools from their website <https://aobta.org/page/COSPMembership>

“Schools and Programs that teach an Asian Bodywork Therapy program are eligible for membership in the AOBTA® Council of Schools and Programs (COSP) if their curriculum meets AOBTA® standards and fulfills the requirements of the 500 Hour Curriculum.

There is an application and review process that determines if the school or program meets eligibility requirements.”

Current list of schools:

3 Treasures School of Medical Qigong
Miami, Florida
AOMA Graduate School of Integrative Medicine
Austin, Texas
Arizona School of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine
Tucson, Arizona
International School of Shiatsu
Pipersville, Pennsylvania
Jin Shin Do® Foundation for Bodymind Acupressure®
Idyllwild, California
Karuna Five Element Shiatsu
Northampton, Massachusetts
New York College of Health Professions
Syosset, New York
Pacific College of Health Sciences | San Diego
San Diego, California
Shiatsu School of Vermont
Brattleboro, Vermont
Swedish Institute College of Health Sciences
New York, New York
Zen Shiatsu Chicago
Evanston, Illinois

I believe this will enable the bill to be even-handed and inclusive of those schools and programs dedicated to help the holistic wellness of our people, while retaining a strong force for the good and safety of the State.

Ever Onward,

Victor Manuel,

Tuina AOBTA Certified Practitioner.