

March 15, 2021

TO: House Commerce and Labor Committee

RE: SB 55

I am a licensed Massage Therapist and a certified Trager® practitioner with an active practice in the state of Ohio. I have been practicing both Massage and *Trager* for over thirty years in the state of Ohio.

As a registered voter, I have become aware that SB 55 proposes additional Massage Therapy licensing for non-massage practices such as *Trager*.

I fully support the proper exemptions, similar to those being considered for Reflexology, for non- massage practices being proposed by the US Trager Association and other national organizations, and feel SB 55 would impose unnecessary regulation

I am contacting you to ask you to support these exemptions for *Trager* Practitioners.

The *Trager* Approach is an educational method, not taught in Massage Therapy programs and not recognized by those organizations as Massage Therapy. *Trager* Practitioners are certified by the national *Trager* association only after completion of the required education and evaluation.

Most states do not require Trager Practitioners to have Massage Therapy licensing and many states exempt The *Trager* Approach by name. Additionally, there is no record of harm to the public from certified *Trager* Practitioners, no *Trager* Practitioners in any state have been involved in illegal activities, and there is no evidence that any illegal actors have used our name as a front for their activities.

I am very concerned that requiring additional Massage Therapy licensing, which involves additional education, time and expense would impose an unnecessary burden on those properly certified *Trager* Practitioners practicing their profession in the state of Ohio.

Thank you for your consideration and attention to these proposed additional requirements for non-massage professionals.

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