
My name is Judy Fasone. I am a Columbus resident, Registered Nurse since 1989 and Trager Practitioner since 1997. I have been blending The Trager Approach into my Holistic Nursing practice since 2000. I am licensed by the state and do not need to curb by activities if this bill does not pass, and so I am writing you in support of the passage of HB81, for the continuance of working Trager colleagues and other excellent bodyworkers who are not licensed as massage practitioners. These practitioners are helping their clients relieve pain, recover from trauma both physical and mental, and who are excellent professionals practicing in the state of Ohio. Without these approaches, many Ohioans would continue to suffer.

Massage therapy is often not enough to help someone to return to full physical functionality. Alternative approaches such as Trager, Rolfing, Structural Integration, Feldenkrais, Anat Baniel Method, Somatic Experiencing and Alexander, Pilates (and others) reach the unconscious mind. By reaching the unconscious mind, we disrupt patterns that are no longer working, and create new healthier movement patterns that support full recovery and healing at the deepest level. These approaches came about in the 60-70's in response to deteriorating bodies that were not being helped with traditional medical approaches. Massage wasn't enough.

Each approach was created by a brilliant scientific scholar, who developed a unique approach and shared what they had learned. Those of us that practice these alternative healing modalities are a result of these originators. Each method has a certification program that is well monitored and supported by National and International standards for ethics and professionalism.

I support of the passage of HB81 **as amended by the House Commerce and Labor Committee to include:**

Sec. 4731.15.

(F) The following persons are not required to hold a license to practice massage therapy issued under this chapter:

(4) A person who holds a certification, based on a minimum level of training, competency demonstration, and adherence to ethical standards, from a professional association or other credentialing body to practice movement or somatic education, which includes using touch, words, and directed movement, with a fully clothed client, to deepen awareness of existing patterns of movement or suggest new possibilities of movement and does not include massage therapy.

This Amendment addresses the serious concerns we originally had with HB81 (and SB55). We have always supported the massage therapy community and the intent of this bill to better regulate their profession and curb illegal activities associated with illicit establishments. However, we found ourselves in the unfortunate position of having to speak out against this bill, as it was originally introduced, because it could have been interpreted to incorrectly include Practitioners of The *Trager* Approach as massage therapists. This amendment clarifies that legitimate practitioners of movement or somatic education may practice without massage licensing, if they meet the appropriate conditions, without creating an easily exploitable "loophole".

Please read my colleague Jim Noriega's written testimony to learn more about the Trager Approach. I regret I will be unable to testify in person, I am currently traveling. You can watch my previous testimony here:

<https://ohiochannel.org/video/ohio-house-commerce-and-labor-committee-5-26-2021>

Thank you for your time and attention to our testimonies, and willingness to be educated about our work. You can learn more about me and Trager at judyfasone.com or Tragerapproach.us

Sincerely,

Judy Fasone, RN, Advanced Holistic Nurse, Nurse Health and Wellness Coach, Trager Practitioner and Somatic Therapist.