



# NATIONAL HEALTH FREEDOM ACTION

March 8, 2014

## **Oppose Minnesota's SB 1792 and HB 1925 Unwanted Registration Of Massage and Bodyworkers Hearing in Judiciary Committee March 11<sup>th</sup> Tuesday**

**Come to the Hearing! Take Action to Oppose SF 1792 today and stop unnecessary registration of massage and bodywork therapists! SF 1792 is scheduled to be heard in the:  
MN Senate Judiciary Committee**

**Tuesday, March 11, 2014**

**12 Noon**

**Room 15 Capitol**

**Take Action:**

- 1. Come to Judiciary Committee Hearing and sign up to testify and voice opposition**
- 2. Click Here and Enter your Zip code to send an automatic and immediate message to your legislators**  
[http://org.salsalabs.com/o/850/p/dia/action3/common/public/?action\\_KEY=15227](http://org.salsalabs.com/o/850/p/dia/action3/common/public/?action_KEY=15227)
- 3. Call the Judiciary Committee Members listed below to voice your concerns.**

**There is no constitutional basis to register massage and bodywork therapists in Minnesota** under MN 214's law listing the criteria for regulating professions! Minnesota already has the well-known law, MN146A, providing practitioner guidelines and ensuring that consumers have safe access to all unlicensed complementary and alternative health care practitioners including all types of massage therapists and bodyworkers.

**The new bills, SF 1792 and HF 1925, are being promoted and described as non-threatening,** but NHFA is deeply concerned and opposes these bills because they will change the playing field of the healing practices and access and not be confined in the long term to title protection or voluntariness.

**Read NHFA's seven page Responsive Document to the Legislature.**

**Click Here to write to your Legislators**

[http://org.salsalabs.com/o/850/p/dia/action3/common/public/?action\\_KEY=15227](http://org.salsalabs.com/o/850/p/dia/action3/common/public/?action_KEY=15227)

**Click Here to Read Senate File 1792**

[https://www.revisor.mn.gov/bills/text.php?number=SF1792&version=1&session=ls88&session\\_year=2014&session\\_number=0&format=pdf](https://www.revisor.mn.gov/bills/text.php?number=SF1792&version=1&session=ls88&session_year=2014&session_number=0&format=pdf)

**Click Here to Read House File 1925**

<http://wdoc.house.leg.state.mn.us/leg/LS88/HF1925.0.pdf>

**Advocates testified that these bills are for the narrow purpose** of acquiring exclusive use of the title "registered massage and bodywork therapist" for the special group of people with a special type of education. But they also state that their long term wish is for exclusive licensure

of all massage and bodyworkers, and that the bills were made smaller because of opposition to the expansive licensing mandates.

**These bills are a direct threat to the landscape of complementary and alternative health care practices in Minnesota** and are exactly what MN146A was trying to avoid when they passed the complementary and alternative practitioner law. It was the goal of MN146A that all of the healers in the public domain could follow their vocations as they saw fit and provide safe services to consumers. **These bills would begin to take practices that do not pose an imminent risk of harm to the public** and that are currently practiced freely under MN146A, and put them into the hands of the government to regulate unnecessarily, creating a new tier of regulation and competition and getting government to make special endorsements of special types of education. Governments do not have a constitutional right to regulate professions that are not causing harm. There is no need for government intervention to dole out exclusive titles for exclusive types of education unless there is an imminent risk of harm without it.

**Advocates have assured opposition that there is no danger of putting MN146A massage and bodyworkers out of business because the bills only call for voluntary registration. However the bill as written would not suggest that outcome.** The bills contain language that exclusively protects registered practitioners over unregistered MN146A practitioners when it comes to their relationship with individual city governments and municipalities. The bills contain language blocking cities from regulating and licensing state registered practitioners but the bill does not block municipalities from regulating MN146A practitioners. Legislators commented that this could feasibly lead to cities depending on state registration to regulate their practitioners and then only allowing state registered practitioners to work in their municipalities. This would jeopardize the practices of thousands of small business healing practitioners who are willing to abide by all municipal laws but have no intent on going to special schools or paying the fees for the registration and who are currently working under MN146A.

## **Take Action: Contact Committee Members for the Senate Judiciary Committee**

**Chair: Ron Latz (46, DFL)**

303 Capitol  
75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.  
St. Paul, MN 55155-1606  
651-297-8065

**Vice Chair: Barb Goodwin (41, DFL)**

124 Capitol  
75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.  
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651-296-4334

**Ranking Minority Member: Warren Limmer (34, R)**

153 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.  
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651-296-2159  
E-mail: [sen.warren.limmer@senate.mn](mailto:sen.warren.limmer@senate.mn)

**Bobby Joe Champion (59, DFL)**

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**Dan D. Hall (56, R)**

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**Kathy Sheran (19, DFL)**

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651-296-6153  
E-mail: [sen.kathy.sheran@senate.mn](mailto:sen.kathy.sheran@senate.mn)

**Kari Dzedzic (60, DFL)**

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75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.  
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651-296-7809

**Scott J. Newman (18, R)**

141 State Office Building  
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