



NATIONAL HEALTH FREEDOM ACTION

March 5, 2014

Oppose Minnesota's SB 1792 and HB 1925 Unwanted Registration Of Massage and Bodyworkers

SB 1792 is on its way to the Minnesota Senate State and Local Government Committee. Take Action and Oppose Minnesota SB 1792 and HB 1925 Registering Massage and Bodyworkers!

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.

Read More.

The new bills, SB 1792 and HB 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 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

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 State and Local Government Committee

Minnesota Senate
State and Local Government Committee
Chair: Sandra L. Pappas
Sandra L. Pappas (65, DFL)
120 Capitol
St. Paul, MN 55155-1606
651-296-1802

Vice Chair: Chris A. Eaton (40, DFL)
321 Capitol
St. Paul, MN 55155-1606
651-296-8869

Dan D. Hall (56, R)
103 State Office Building
St. Paul, MN 55155-1206
651-296-5975
E-mail: sen.dan.hall@senate.mn

Bruce D. Anderson (29, R)
133 State Office Building
St. Paul, MN 55155-1206
651-296-5981
E-mail:
sen.bruce.anderson@senate.mn

Kevin L. Dahle (20, DFL)
317 Capitol
St. Paul, MN 55155-1606
651-296-1279
E-mail:
sen.kevin.dahle@senate.mn

Jeff Hayden (62, DFL)
208 Capitol
St. Paul, MN 55155-1606
651-296-4261
E-mail:
sen.jeff.hayden@senate.mn

Karin Housley (39, R)
21 State Office Building
St. Paul, MN 55155-1206
651-296-4351
E-mail:
sen.karin.housley@senate.mn

Alice M. Johnson (37, DFL)
205 Capitol
St. Paul, MN 55155-1606
651-296-2556
E-mail: <button_formsm.jpg>

Branden Petersen (35, R)
127 State Office Building
St. Paul, MN 55155-1206
651-296-3733
E-mail:
sen.branden.petersen@senate.mn

Bev Scalze (42, DFL)
124 Capitol
St. Paul, MN 55155-1606
651-296-5537
E-mail:
sen.bev.scalze@senate.mn

Dave Thompson (58, R)
131 State Office Building
St. Paul, MN 55155-1206
651-296-5252
E-mail:
sen.dave.thompson@senate.mn

Patricia Torres Ray (63, DFL)
309 Capitol
St. Paul, MN 55155-1606
651-296-4274
E-mail:
sen.patricia.torres.ray@senate.mn

Melissa H. Wiklund (50, DFL)
303 Capitol
St. Paul, MN 55155-1606
651-297-8061
E-mail:
sen.melissa.wiklund@senate.mn



507-663-9018
[Info.nhfa@nationalhealthfreedom.org](mailto:info.nhfa@nationalhealthfreedom.org)
•
PMB 218, 2136 Ford Parkway
St. Paul, MN 55116-1863
www.nationalhealthfreedomaction.org