State of Arkansas
92nd General Assembly
Regular Session, 2019

By: Representative L. Johnson
By: Senator Hester

For An Act To Be Entitled
AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAWS CONCERNING MASSAGE THERAPY;
TO REMOVE THE TUBERCULOSIS TESTS AS A REQUIREMENT FOR
MASSAGE THERAPIST LICENSURE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle
TO AMEND THE LAWS CONCERNING MASSAGE THERAPY; AND TO REMOVE THE TUBERCULOSIS TESTS AS A REQUIREMENT FOR MASSAGE THERAPIST LICENSURE.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 17-86-303(a), concerning the licensure of a massage therapist, is amended to read as follows:
(a) In order to be licensed as a massage therapist, the person seeking licensure shall:
(1) Furnish to the Department of Health satisfactory proof that he or she is eighteen (18) years of age or older and of good moral character;
(2) Make oath that he or she has not been convicted of, found guilty of, or entered a plea of guilty or nolo contendere to any offense that would constitute a felony or constitute the offense of prostitution, either in this state or the United States, and submit a signed authorization to investigate and have information released to the Department of Health;
(3) Present the following issued in the same name as the applicant or licensee:
(A) A valid photo identification or driver’s license, or
both; and

(B) A Social Security card;

(4)(A) Present a high school diploma, high school equivalency
diploma approved by the Department of Career Education, or college transcript
and credentials issued by a massage therapy school accepted by the Department
of Health or a like institution with no less than five hundred (500) hours of
in-classroom instruction.

(B) An applicant shall not submit his or her transcript
directly to the Department of Health.

(C) An applicant shall request that the massage therapy
school submit the transcript directly to the Department of Health.

(D)(i) If the applicant’s transcript is not obtainable
from the original school, the applicant shall submit a statement to explain
why the transcript may not be obtained.

(ii) Other documentation of credentials may be
submitted and accepted for licensure at the discretion of the Department of
Health;

(5) Furnish to the Department of Health satisfactory proof of
passing an examination recognized and approved by the Department of Health;

and

(6) Present a negative test for tuberculosis that is current at
the time of licensure; and

(7) Pay the specified fees, which shall accompany a completed
notarized application to the Department of Health.

APPROVED: 3/5/19