

1 State of Arkansas  
2 90th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2015

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1589

4  
5 By: Representative Della Rosa

## For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO EXEMPT THE BOWEN THERAPY OR BOWEN TECHNIQUE  
9 FROM LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS UNDER THE ARKANSAS STATE  
10 BOARD OF MASSAGE THERAPY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

## Subtitle

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14 TO EXEMPT THE BOWEN THERAPY OR BOWEN  
15 TECHNIQUE FROM LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS  
16 UNDER THE ARKANSAS STATE BOARD OF MASSAGE  
17 THERAPY.

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

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22 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 17-86-301(b), concerning exemptions from  
23 licensure requirements under the Arkansas State Board of Massage Therapy, is  
24 amended to read as follows:

25 (b) ~~Exemptions~~ This chapter shall not require licensure of:

26 (1) ~~Persons~~ A person authorized by the ~~laws of this state~~ state  
27 law to practice medicine, osteopathy, podiatry, or physical therapy, and  
28 licensed ~~physicians'~~ physician assistants, licensed nurses, licensed physical  
29 therapy assistants, licensed acupuncturists, licensed midwives, and  
30 chiropractors ~~are exempt from this chapter in so far as~~ if massage therapy  
31 practices are offered or instructed within the scope and under the provisions  
32 of licensure;

33 (2) ~~Persons~~ A person authorized by the board to present and  
34 instruct board-approved school curriculum or continuing education programs,  
35 or both, ~~may present and instruct such board approved curriculum and programs~~  
36 for payment ~~and in the presentation and instruction may utilize practices~~



1 ~~defined in, but without being licensed or registered under, the provisions of~~  
 2 ~~this chapter; and~~

3 (3) The A person engaged in the practice of massage therapy that  
 4 is incidental to a program of study by students enrolled in a licensed  
 5 massage therapy school approved by the board, and under direct supervision of  
 6 a licensee employed as an instructor at the school, ~~is exempt from § 17-86-~~  
 7 ~~311(a)(10).~~; and

8 (4)(A) A person engaged in the practice of using minimal touch  
 9 over specific points on the body to facilitate balance in the nervous system,  
 10 also known as Bowen therapy or Bowen technique, and is certified by a  
 11 professional organization or credentialing agency that:

12 (i) Requires a minimum level of training,  
 13 demonstration of competence, and adherence to an approved scope of practice  
 14 and ethical standards; and

15 (ii) Maintains disciplinary procedures to ensure  
 16 adherence to the requirements of the organization or agency.

17 (B) The Arkansas State Board of Massage Therapy may verify  
 18 that a practitioner claiming an exemption under subdivision (b)(4) of this  
 19 section is certified by a professional organization or credentialing agency.

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