

1 State of Arkansas As Engrossed: H2/23/21 H3/17/21

2 93rd General Assembly **A Bill**

3 Regular Session, 2021 HOUSE BILL 1440

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5 By: Representative Pilkington

6 By: Senator Hester

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**For An Act To Be Entitled**

9 AN ACT TO MODIFY THE CURRICULUM OF MASSAGE THERAPY  
10 SCHOOLS; TO ALLOW REMOTE EDUCATION IN AN ONLINE  
11 FORMAT AND IN-PERSON TRAINING WITH A MASTER MASSAGE  
12 THERAPIST TO MEET THE CURRICULUM REQUIREMENTS; AND  
13 FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

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**Subtitle**

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

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27 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 17-86-306(e), concerning massage therapy  
28 schools, is amended to read as follows:

29 (e)(1) The department may certify the school and provide for licensure  
30 thereof if the school follows a curriculum consisting of not fewer than five  
31 hundred (500) hours of in-classroom instruction over a term of not fewer than  
32 four (4) months consisting of the following subjects:

33 ~~(1)~~(A) One hundred seventy-five (175) hours of anatomy,  
34 physiology, pathology, and contraindications to massage therapy;

35 ~~(2)~~(B) Two hundred twenty-five (225) hours of technique;

36 ~~(3)~~(C) Twenty-five (25) hours of hydrotherapy, electrotherapy,



1 and heliotherapy;

2 ~~(4)(D)~~ Twenty-five (25) hours of hygiene and infection control;

3 ~~(5)(E)~~ Twenty-five (25) hours of massage therapy law, business  
4 management, and professional ethics; and

5 ~~(6)(F)~~ Twenty-five (25) hours of related subjects as approved by  
6 the department.

7 (2)(A) The curriculum established in subdivision (e)(1) of this  
8 section may be completed through remote education in an online format and in-  
9 person training with a master massage therapist or massage therapy instructor  
10 in a licensed massage therapy clinic or massage therapy spa if the massage  
11 therapy clinic or massage therapy spa has a collaborative agreement with a  
12 massage therapy school.

13 (B) If a massage therapy clinic or massage therapy spa  
14 cannot find a massage therapy school willing to enter into a collaborative  
15 agreement with the massage therapy clinic or massage therapy spa, the massage  
16 therapy clinic or massage therapy spa may apply to the department for an  
17 exemption to the requirement in (e)(2)(A) of this section.

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19 /s/Pilkington  
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