

1 State of Arkansas
2 94th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2023
4

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1115

5 By: Representative Maddox
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For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO AMEND THE DEFINITION AND REQUIREMENTS OF A
9 MASTER MESSAGE THERAPIST WITHIN THE MASSAGE THERAPY
10 ACT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
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Subtitle

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13 TO AMEND THE DEFINITION AND REQUIREMENTS
14 OF A MASTER MESSAGE THERAPIST WITHIN THE
15 MASSAGE THERAPY ACT.
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19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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21 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 17-86-102(8), concerning the definition of
22 "master message therapist" within the Massage Therapy Act, is amended to read
23 as follows:

24 (8)(A) "Master message therapist" means a person who:

25 (i) Before July 1, 2010, is a licensed and
26 registered massage therapist who has completed no fewer than two hundred
27 fifty (250) hours of practical experience as a massage therapist, which may
28 be gained in part or in whole as an assistant to an instructor in a massage
29 school and has completed no less than one hundred twenty-five (125)
30 continuing education hours as approved by the department;

31 (ii) Either:

32 (a) On or after July 1, 2010, has:

33 (1) Been ~~been~~ an active and practicing
34 licensee and registered as a massage therapist for a period of not less than
35 two (2) years preceding the application for an upgrade to master massage
36 therapist; and



1 ~~(iii)(2)~~ ~~On or after July 1, 2010, in~~ In
 2 addition to the experience under subdivision (8)(A)(i) of this section, ~~has~~
 3 completed no less than one hundred twenty-five (125) continuing education
 4 hours as approved by the department; ~~and~~ or

5 (b) On or after July 1, 2023, has:

6 (1) Been an active practicing licensee
 7 and registered as a massage therapist for the period of not less than twelve
 8 (12) months preceding the application for an upgrade to master massage
 9 therapist; and

10 (2) Completed not less than three
 11 hundred (300) hours of advanced coursework in massage therapy as part of an
 12 Associates of Applied Science degree of massage therapy approved by the
 13 department; and

14 ~~(iv)(iii)~~ (iii) Is determined by the department to be
 15 qualified to be licensed and registered to practice massage therapy.

16 (B) “Master massage therapist” includes a person who has
 17 previously obtained the master massage therapist license under a prior state
 18 law.

19 (C) Master massage therapists may:

20 (i) Instruct continuing education programs approved
 21 by the department;

22 (ii) Instruct any of the procedures in subdivision
 23 (3) of this section; and

24 (iii) Instruct, as directed by a massage therapy
 25 instructor, basic curricula in a massage therapy school registered by the
 26 department as required by § 17-86-306(e);

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