



From: Brenda Maruhnich <[bj6698@aol.com](mailto:bj6698@aol.com)>

Sent: Tuesday, January 16, 2024 9:27 PM

To: ST, RegulatoryCounsel <[RA-STRegulatoryCounsel@pa.gov](mailto:RA-STRegulatoryCounsel@pa.gov)>

Subject: [External] Pertaining to rule making 16A-726 (massage therapy in cosmetology or esthetician salons)

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To whom it may concern,

As a massage therapist and a cosmetologist licensed in Pa, I understand the need for ample room to work and the needed square footage to move around a table. I feel that a 10x10 room or a 10x11 room still provides enough room as the table can be turned at an angle to access all around. Under the proposed regulations or 120 square foot this room would be deemed to small even though I have personally worked in this size of room with ease.

I am also concerned that massage is unfairly being restricted regarding the requirement without any exemption being able to be brought forth to the board on a case by case basis. The Cosmetology board has allowed owners to file for an exemption to the board for square footage and the massage therapist/owners should also be allowed to go before the cosmetology or massage therapy board and ask for an exemption, on a case by case basis.

I fear that some owners of salons that are smaller than the 120 square feet will just fire/dismiss the massage therapist as the cost to increase the size of the room would be to expensive and there is no restriction to esthetics so it would be overall cheaper to higher another esthetician instead of a massage therapist. This would lead to the MT becoming unemployed and an undo hardship.

Please consider allow exemptions on a case by case basis to be heard by the board.

Sincerely,

Brenda Maruhnich

PaMSG 001052

AAS,BCTMB, LMT

Owner Pittsburgh Massage Therapy and Wellness Sent from my iPhone