

AGENDA
South Carolina Massage/Bodywork Therapy Panel
Task Force Meeting
March 28, 2018 9:00 a.m.
Synergy Business Park
Kingstree Building, Conference Room 202-02
110 Centerview Drive, Columbia, SC 29210

1. Meeting Called to Order

- a. Public notice of this meeting was properly posted at the SC Massage/Bodywork Therapy Panel office, Synergy Business Park, Kingstree Building and provided to all requesting persons, organizations, and news media in compliance with Section 30-4-80 of the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act.

2. Review of Massage/Bodywork Panel Statute for Proposed Recommendation of Establishment Licensure and Criteria

Chairperson Janet Shaw called the task force meeting of the S.C. Massage/Bodywork Therapy Panel to order. Other task force members/staff participating in the meeting included:

- Georgia Lewis, Advice Counsel (LLR)
- Shalon Genwright, Staff (LLR)
- Theresa Brown, Board Administrator (LLR)
- Sarah Gershutz, AMTA
- Jennifer Stillwell, Office of Investigations and Enforcement
- Lane Goodwin, Commission on Higher Education (left at 11:00 a.m.)

This is the fourth meeting to create guidelines for establishment regulation. This will only be a work day as there is not a quorum. A quorum would be needed in order to give recommendations to the panel.

A bill had been drafted since the last task force meeting, which was sponsored by Representative Norrell. This bill went up to the subcommittee on March 21st, where the purpose of the bill was given and questions were taken. A representative had concerns regarding the fines against the person in charge. The hearing was adjourned in order to determine the importance of this bill and will resume at the next legislative session. The next legislative session will take place in six (6) months. A few of the other concerns that arose at the meeting included:

- Minimal amount of inspections seen
- Criminal background checks being initiated for licensees and potential business owners
- The bill's definition of a massage establishment is very convoluted
- The bill's section on fencing
- Making investigators police officers
- Making the establishment portion a separate article

The present statute may be cleaned up within this process as the bill that has been drafted is written from a human trafficking point of view.

The bill (2017-2018 Bill 5107), American Massage Therapy Association (AMTA) concerns of the bill, and a draft from previous task force meetings had been given to those present.

Chairperson Shaw had huge concerns about how having a massage/bodywork therapist (licensee) as a requirement to license the massage establishment would narrow the field of opportunities for the therapists in the field. The manager may take a jurisprudence examination and become a qualifying party. A level of responsibility should be given to the owner of the establishment as well. The Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation has to have jurisdiction over the manager of the establishment for them to be subjected to discipline. The person listed as the manager may be the manager over more than one (1) establishment. The manager-in-charge should be an individual who is licensed by the Massage Panel who is responsible for the daily activities of a licensed massage establishment.

The definition of an illicit business is needed. Inspectors will not be going into any shut doors of establishments.

Mobile massage has to be revisited.

The different titles and descriptions of services incorporating words that are synonymous with massage may go into an advertising section of the statute. The massage establishment license number should be seen on all advertisements, along with the business name.

The AMTA is currently pursuing a lobbyist.

A checklist for the inspectors should be brainstormed, along with disciplinary grounds prior to the next task force meeting.

3. **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 1:23 p.m.