To the California Massage Therapy Council,

I am writing today because I understand CAMTC may be considering a fee increase at the November 29, 2022, meeting. I would like my comments to be included in the Board Packet for the record.

I am opposed to this fee increase. I am interested in seeking clarification on and learning about the following regarding the potential fee increase:

1. What is the justification for the fee increase?
2. How much of an increase is being proposed?
3. How will the extra funds be allocated?
4. How will the fee increase benefit massage therapists?
5. When would the fee increase go into effect?
6. Is there a shortage in funds for the CAMTC that warrants this increase?

I have concerns about a fee increase since massage therapists are already paying $200 for a CAMTC certification/renewal, and that is on the high end for a certification/license renewal compared to the rest of the country. Statistically, there are more massage therapists in California than any other state—why does CAMTC require further funding from a large population of professionals paying high fees if those professionals are already generating one of the highest administrative earnings?

Massage therapists suffered financially during the pandemic, and the community is still trying to return to practice. CAMTC-certified massage therapists specifically were unable to take advantage of a renewal fee pause during the pandemic, unlike many other professions in the state. In addition to my CAMTC certification, I have many other fees, including local licensing fees, which can be extremely high, and operational costs. The costs are becoming unreasonable in California to continue practicing in a profession where I only make, on average, [insert your average salary] per year. I have no disciplinary issues with CAMTC and interact with the council only around renewal time.

I am opposed to any fee increase because it will create a financial burden for CAMTC-certified massage therapists like me.

Thank you,
[Your name]