



Associated Bodywork & Massage Professionals

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Monday, March 20, 2023

TO: Patricia Spearman, Sandra Jauregui, Roberta Lange, James A. Settelmeyer, Beatrice Duran, Melissa Hardy, Heidi Kasama, and Elaine Marzola

CC: Senator Melanie Scheible

RE: ABMP Comments on Senate Bill 270

POSITION: Support

VIA EMAIL

Associated Bodywork & Massage Professionals (ABMP) provides professional liability insurance, business resources, professional publications, and legislative and regulatory advocacy for more than 80,000 members nationwide.

ABMP is in support of Senate Bill 270 (SB 270) regarding the Interstate Massage Compact (Compact). ABMP worked with the Council of State Governments and the Department of Defense to draft this language and believes SB 270 is ultimately a benefit to massage therapists, as it will allow licensed practitioners to gain employment easier and faster in other compact states.

The Compact is a vastly superior alternative to onerous licensure-by-endorsement processes. It will be advantageous to military families moving around the country, reduce financial burdens of massage therapists requiring and paying for multiple state licenses, and may affect Nevada's bottom line with potential increased taxable income. SB 270 will also assist the Nevada State Board of Massage Therapy by enhancing public safety, reducing application processing time, and expanding cooperation among state regulatory boards.

The Compact bill language was carefully drafted to ensure that licensed massage therapists will be properly educated and vetted. Once a minimum of seven states passes the bill and the Interstate Massage Compact Commission drafts rules, massage therapists in participating states will be able to obtain a multistate license so long as they have 625 hours of education and no encumbrances against their license in their home state. Participating states will require continuing education for license renewal, criminal background checks, and a disciplinary process.

ABMP fully supports the Compact's efforts to increase the mobility of lawfully practicing massage therapists in compact-participating states and encourages you to vote yes on SB 270.

Please contact me at les@abmp.com if you have comments or questions.

Sincerely,

Les Sweeney
President
Associated Bodywork & Massage Professionals