

**REVENUE: No revenue impact**

**FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued**

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<b>Action:</b>	Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed
<b>Vote:</b>	5 - 0 - 0
<b>Yeas:</b>	Knopp, Kruse, Shields, Steiner Hayward, Monnes Anderson
<b>Nays:</b>	0
<b>Exc.:</b>	0
<b>Prepared By:</b>	Sandy Thiele-Cirka, Administrator
<b>Meeting Dates:</b>	2/11, 2/25

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Requires permit to operate massage facility. Requires State Board of Massage Therapists to oversee permitting of massage facilities. Imposes certain other prohibitions on and requirements for massage facilities. Exempts clinic or facility owned or operated by individuals licensed to practice by health professional board. Exempts individual practitioners practicing as individual massage therapist. Amends specific provisions relating to massage therapy. Operative on January 1, 2014. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Concerns relating to unlicensed and unregulated facilities and individuals
- Unlicensed massage practitioners and human trafficking
- Current loopholes in state regulation relating to facilities
- Concerns associated with independent massage therapists and those working from home
- Proposed amendments
- Enforcement issues relating to licensed or unlicensed facilities

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** Exempts career schools, and clinics or facilities owned/operated by individuals licensed to practice by a health professional board. Exempts individual practitioners practicing as an individual massage therapist.

**BACKGROUND:** The Oregon Board of Massage Therapists (OBMT) regulates and monitors the practice of massage therapy in Oregon. OBMT's role is to balance public safety and the needs of licensed massage therapists by developing, implementing, and maintaining the standards of professional conduct and practice.

The OBMT had authority to license massage facilities from 1955 through 1989. During the 1989 Legislative Session, OBMT had the language removed on the premise that massage facility inspections would be moved to a different state agency. Those facility inspection duties were never transferred. Currently, there is no massage facility oversight in Oregon.

Senate Bill 387-A allows OBMT to oversee permitting of massage facilities and provides a tool to enforce unregulated persons who facilitate unlawful practices from the facilities.