

REVENUE:

FISCAL:

SUBSEQUENT REFERRAL TO:

Action:

Vote:

Yeas:

Nays:

Exc.:

Prepared By: James LaBar, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 4/8

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Requires regulation of bodywork in same manner that law currently regulates massage. Defines “bodywork.” Changes name of State Board of Massage Therapists to State Board of Massage Therapists and Bodyworkers. Excludes community colleges and accredited colleges and universities from definition of “massage facility.” Increases number of class hours required for licensure as massage therapist or bodyworker. Authorizes board to require licensed massage therapists and licensed bodyworkers to acquire or renew endorsement before practicing advanced technique of massage or bodywork. Becomes operative January 1, 2016. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

(-3 amendment) Removes all reference to bodywork and bodyworker. Eliminates name change of board. Removes all reference to an endorsement. Modifies the certified hours from 700 to 625. Changes the verbiage to the definition of massage to “Massage does not mean the practicing of any form of high velocity short amplitude manipulative thrusting procedures provided to the articulations of the spine or extremities.”

BACKGROUND: The Federation of State Massage Therapy Boards (FSMTB) convened a national task force to review the minimum number of certified class hours to license massage therapists. This task force developed The Core – Entry-Level Analysis Project Report (ELAP) and recommended a national standard of 625 certified class hours in an attempt to allow the portability and reciprocity of a massage license.

Currently, the statutory requirement for licensure in Oregon is 500 certified class hours and would require an increase of 125 hours. The Oregon Board of Massage Therapists finds that the FSMTB recommendation for the minimum certified class hours of 625 would offer licensees the possibility of portability and reciprocity. SB 298-3 amends ORS 687 and increases the education requirement from 500 to 625 hours and would become effective on 1/1/2016.

SB 298-3 would statutorily exempt the student clinics at colleges and universities from obtaining a facilities permit. This was an oversight from last session when the Massage Facility Permit bill was passed the Oregon Board of Massage Therapists only exempted private career schools.