

## Minnesota Licensing—Sample Advocacy Letter

[Dear elected official,]

I am a professional massage therapist and a constituent in your district. I am writing today in support of Senate File 967 (SF 967) and House File 973 (HF 973), which would create statewide licensure for massage and Asian bodywork therapists in Minnesota. Forty-five states, Washington, D.C., and Puerto Rico require massage therapists to be licensed. It's time for Minnesota to join these other states.

Passing SF 967 or HF 973 would positively benefit the massage therapy community by:

- Standardizing massage therapy educational requirements and establishing qualifications and competencies for entry-level practitioners
- Providing a statewide scope of practice and professional guidelines, creating uniformity within the profession
- Increasing public protection by implementing processes to address massage therapy ethical violations, license revocations from other states, and convictions relevant to the practice of massage therapy
- Replacing the current patchwork of regulations that requires massage therapists to comply with multiple city ordinances; such a step would reduce administrative and financial burdens on massage therapists working in multiple jurisdictions

Statewide massage therapy licensure is desirable in Minnesota, preferable to the current patchwork of local regulatory patterns in place. I urge you to support a unified standard of practice, resulting in enhanced public protection.

Thank you for your consideration,

[Your name]