

EXHIBIT 6
DATE 3-27-09
HB 662

Representatives of House Business and Labor Committee
Regarding: HB 622 Massage Therapy Bill

Hello and thank you for your consideration of my comments regarding HB 622.

I am a nationally certified massage therapist. I am also a nationally certified teacher of Thai Massage, Seitai Shiatsu, and Qigong. I have practiced Asian Healing Arts for over a decade. I was a part of Big Sky Somatic Institute Asian Healing Arts Program in Helena for 10 years, first as a student, then teaching assistant and finally as a staff member.

I am in favor of trained, skilled therapists. My training, practice and teaching certification is in Asian Healing Arts. I understand this form of massage has been exempted from HB 622. My question and concern is how it would look to practice Asian Healing Arts in Montana if this bill passes. The verbiage in the bill is not clear...am I practicing with a COMPLETE EXEMPTION WITHOUT STIPULATION, as is presently the case without ANY State Licensure in place? Or am I just exempt from this "Massage Therapy Bill, HB 622" but REQUIRED TO BE LICENSED BY ANOTHER LEGAL STATE ENTITY? Am I recognized as professional therapist under this bill?

I strongly object to a bill that is so confusing and narrow in scope. It appears to recognize only Western Swedish Style relaxation massage as legitimate enough to be licensed.

I strongly urge you to OPPOSE this confusing narrow bill.

I appreciate your integrity and wisdom in deciding this matter.

Sincerely,

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