
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO MASSAGE THERAPISTS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the practice of
2 massage therapy in the State affects public health and safety.
3 As a matter of public interest and concern, massage therapist
4 licensees should regularly maintain their knowledge and
5 education and receive basic first aid and emergency-related
6 training through mandatory continuing education requirements, in
7 addition to understanding the ethical implications of
8 advertising and promoting the practice of massage.

9 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to:

10 (1) Require massage therapist licensees, beginning with
11 the renewal for the licensing biennium commencing on
12 July 1, 2024, and every biennial renewal thereafter,
13 to complete twelve hours of continuing education
14 within the two-year period preceding the renewal date,
15 two hours of which shall include first aid,
16 cardiopulmonary resuscitation, or emergency-related
17 course; and



1 (2) Modify and update advertising limitations and
2 penalties.

3 SECTION 2. Section 452-16, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
4 amended to read as follows:

5 "**§452-16 Renewal of license; fees[-]; continuing**
6 **education.** (a) Massage therapist and massage therapy
7 establishment licenses shall expire on June 30 of each even-
8 numbered year following the date of issuance unless renewed for
9 the next biennium. These licenses may be renewed by filing an
10 application therefor, accompanied by a renewal fee[-] and
11 submitting proof of compliance with the continuing education
12 requirements established by subsection (b). The application
13 shall be made between May 1 and June 30 of each even-numbered
14 year. Failure to apply for renewal as provided in this section
15 shall constitute a forfeiture of the license as of the date of
16 expiration. Any license so forfeited may be restored within one
17 year after expiration upon the filing of an application in the
18 same manner, submitting proof of compliance with the continuing
19 education requirements established by subsection (b), and
20 payment of a penalty fee in addition to all delinquent fees.
21 Thereafter, the person shall apply as a new applicant and the



1 board may require the person to take and pass the examination
2 and satisfy all requirements for the examination, including
3 training, if the board is not satisfied that the person
4 possesses current knowledge and skills for the practice of
5 massage therapy.

6 (b) Beginning with the renewal for the licensing biennium
7 commencing on July 1, 2024, and every biennial renewal
8 thereafter, each massage therapist licensee shall submit proof
9 of completing twelve hours of continuing education within the
10 two-year period preceding the renewal date, two hours of which
11 shall include first aid, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, or
12 emergency-related courses. The board shall adopt rules relating
13 to the requirements and standards that continuing education
14 programs shall meet to obtain recognition and approval from the
15 board.

16 (c) The board may conduct random audits of licensees to
17 determine compliance with the continuing education requirements
18 of subsection (b). The board shall provide written notice of an
19 audit to a licensee randomly selected for audit. Within sixty
20 days of notification, the licensee shall provide the board with



1 documentation verifying compliance with the continuing education
2 requirement established by subsection (b)."

3 SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
4 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

5 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.



Report Title:

Massage Therapists; Licenses; Renewals; Continuing Education

Description:

Beginning July 1, 2024, requires massage therapy licensees to complete twelve hours of continuing education within the two-year period preceding the renewal date, two hours of which shall include first aid, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, or emergency related courses. (SD1)

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