

State of Arkansas
90th General Assembly
Regular Session, 2015

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1589

By: Representative Della Rosa

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO EXEMPT THE BOWEN THERAPY OR BOWEN TECHNIQUE FROM LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS UNDER THE ARKANSAS STATE BOARD OF MASSAGE THERAPY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO EXEMPT THE BOWEN THERAPY OR BOWEN TECHNIQUE FROM LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS UNDER THE ARKANSAS STATE BOARD OF MASSAGE THERAPY.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 17-86-301(b), concerning exemptions from licensure requirements under the Arkansas State Board of Massage Therapy, is amended to read as follows:

(b) ~~Exemptions~~ This chapter shall not require licensure of:

(1) ~~Persons~~ A person authorized by the ~~laws of this state~~ state law to practice medicine, osteopathy, podiatry, or physical therapy, and licensed ~~physicians'~~ physician assistants, licensed nurses, licensed physical therapy assistants, licensed acupuncturists, licensed midwives, and chiropractors ~~are exempt from this chapter in so far as~~ if massage therapy practices are offered or instructed within the scope and under the provisions of licensure;

(2) ~~Persons~~ A person authorized by the board to present and instruct board-approved school curriculum or continuing education programs, or both, ~~may present and instruct such board-approved curriculum and programs for payment and in the presentation and instruction may utilize practices~~



~~defined in, but without being licensed or registered under, the provisions of this chapter; and~~

(3) ~~The A person engaged in the practice of massage therapy that is incidental to a program of study by students enrolled in a licensed massage therapy school approved by the board, and under direct supervision of a licensee employed as an instructor at the school, is exempt from § 17-86-311(a)(10).; and~~

(4)(A) A person engaged in the practice of using minimal touch over specific points on the body to facilitate balance in the nervous system, also known as Bowen therapy or Bowen technique, and is certified by a professional organization or credentialing agency that:

(i) Requires a minimum level of training, demonstration of competence, and adherence to an approved scope of practice and ethical standards; and

(ii) Maintains disciplinary procedures to ensure adherence to the requirements of the organization or agency.

(B) The Arkansas State Board of Massage Therapy may verify that a practitioner claiming an exemption under subdivision (b)(4) of this section is certified by a professional organization or credentialing agency.