

Dear Ms. Gail Carrigan,

Below is the letter sent to Senators on the Senate Committee on Government Operations. Thank you for your kind attention to this matter.

Best regards,

Libby Eason

RE: S 270

Thank you for your work in the interest of promoting public safety, while concurrently seeking to do so without burdening touch professionals with excessive government regulation. In many states, massage boards have required non-massage professionals to obtain massage training in order to practice legally, even though they are not trained or engaging in the practice of massage therapy. The profession of structural integration has frequently been negatively impacted by such actions.

S270, as written, has the potential to create a board capable of overreach, due to its broad definition of massage therapy and lack of representation for other touch professions. As an alternative, registration could alleviate that potential, but an advisory board of three massage therapists would not provide equitable representation of the broad spectrum of touch professionals practicing in Vermont, including structural integrators.

On behalf of the structural integration profession, we request that structural integration be regulated, whether by license or registration, in accordance with established educational standards, scope of practice, certification exam and recognition of schools as established by the International Association of Structural Integrations (www.theiasi.net). This can serve two purposes important for public safety – the state can be sure the practitioner is adequately trained, and let the public know how to determine if a practitioner meets basic criteria for safe and effective practice.

Thank you for your consideration.

Libby Eason, Certified Advanced Rolfer
Chair, Law and Regulatory Committee
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