

H.472

Submitted Written Testimony

March 18, 2025

Dear legislators -

I am writing to oppose H 472. I am a licensed massage therapist who works full time in this field and is self-employed. I earned my license through the State of New Hampshire and pay my yearly fees there, as a license is necessary for work there and also for work here in Vermont if my clients wish to be reimbursed through their health insurance. I willingly complied with registration as soon as Vermont instituted it, hoping that it was the first step towards licensure. It has not been. Anyone can register as a massage therapist in Vermont with no credentials whatsoever, and not even a background check, if I remember correctly. I don't see the point in this, and I have no idea what I'm paying \$275 for every two years. As it currently stands there is no value in Vermont registration for either the therapist or the client, and I resent the cash grab. I do support licensure, as Vermont is one of only four states left, I believe, that does not require a license.

Ultimately what would be best for Vermont therapists and clients would be for Vermont to join the Interstate Massage Compact, or IMpact as it is known. <https://massagecompact.org/>

Thanks and I would be happy to speak more on this topic.

Julie Clemons