

Minutes for GR teleconference
April 27, 2016

Present on Call: Christen Corvington (AMTA), Garin Vorthmann (CLS), Kathryn Stewart (AMTA), Chris Smith (CSHA), Charlotte Grill (AMTA), Dennis Simpson (CSHA), Deb Hatch (AMTA), Ed Jerzyk (AMTA), Laura Embleton (ABMP)

8:00 Meeting comes to Order

MTLAD Recap: Took Wed April 20 2016

Update on HB 1320: Passed through Senate Judiciary Committee with several amendments—largely focused on exemption list and putting most of them back in statute with the exception of Asian Bodywork and Polarity Therapy which remain exempted in Rule (DORA is seeing most of the human trafficking/prostitution cases in these two modalities);

-regulation of massage parlor piece discussion—most controversial piece of this bill. AMTA CO discussed that this piece comes out of the bill altogether. History: Act states that local gov's cannot regulate massage therapy. Certain home rule municipalities CAN regulate massage businesses. Confusion within local government about where they can regulate and where they cannot. In areas where there are the home rule areas bad actors are moving into these areas where they cannot be regulated and setting up shop again after they have been caught. So bill was aimed at defining massage PARLORS, not business, parlors, which will be defined narrowly so as to mitigate over-regulation. Senator Cooke concerned that unincorporated can regulate and incorp cannot, would rather just define what local governments can and cannot do. Inspection authority exists for local authorities, this would expand inspection authorities to local governments as well.

-fees for a business license cannot be over burdensome-can only cover cost of license program
-sole practitioners will not have to get a business license, whether massage businesses (not massage parlors) have to get business licenses depends upon the definition of massage parlors and is unknown at this time

-Senator Cooke wants to make it so that local gov's can inspect massage business

-one of the house sponsors who is strident about local authority is

Majority of people testifying against the bill were in exempt modalities—they did not realize that they would not be required to get a license

-there was a lot of talk about the local government piece in committee, Senator Lundberg most vocal against this piece

-Yesterday there was a newspaper article of a licensed massage therapist that was arrested for sexual misconduct. Not sure what impact this case is going to have on this bill.

-AMTA National is working on a statement regarding this issue for us to circulate

-the bill will most likely be heard this week

-AMTA and ABMP and schools are still in agreement that the bill is still a work in progress, working on changing parts of the bill—not opposed to the bill over all, but opposed to parts of it and still working on parts of it

-DORA is having a Rulemaking Stakeholder Meeting on May 16 9-11 am at the DORA office, this is the time people can come forward and help make the definitions and rules that will

-Massage Therapy Sunset Review is not up until 2023 or 2024

-AOBTA (American Organization of Bodywork Therapies of Asia) is still in existence

-Next GR teleconference is Wednesday May 4 at 8 am

