

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

**SENATE BILL 6698**

Chapter 277, Laws of 2002

57th Legislature  
2002 Regular Session

MESSAGE PRACTITIONERS--REFLEXOLOGY EXEMPTION

EFFECTIVE DATE: 6/13/02

Passed by the Senate February 18, 2002  
YEAS 40 NAYS 8

BRAD OWEN

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**President of the Senate**

Passed by the House March 8, 2002  
YEAS 96 NAYS 0

FRANK CHOPP

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**Speaker of the  
House of Representatives**

CERTIFICATE

I, Tony M. Cook, Secretary of the Senate of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **SENATE BILL 6698** as passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives on the dates hereon set forth.

TONY M. COOK

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**Secretary**

Approved March 29, 2002

FILED

March 29, 2002 - 4:12 p.m.

GARY LOCKE

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**Governor of the State of Washington**

**Secretary of State  
State of Washington**

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**SENATE BILL 6698**

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Passed Legislature - 2002 Regular Session

**State of Washington**

**57th Legislature**

**2002 Regular Session**

**By** Senators Thibaudeau and Deccio

Read first time 01/26/2002. Referred to Committee on Health & Long-Term Care.

1 AN ACT Relating to exempting reflexologists from regulation as  
2 massage practitioners; amending RCW 18.108.010 and 18.108.050; and  
3 adding a new section to chapter 18.108 RCW.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 18.108.010 and 2001 c 297 s 2 are each amended to read  
6 as follows:

7 In this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires, the  
8 following meanings shall apply:

9 (1) "Board" means the Washington state board of massage.

10 (2) "Massage" and "massage therapy" mean a health care service  
11 involving the external manipulation or pressure of soft tissue for  
12 therapeutic purposes. Massage therapy includes techniques such as  
13 tapping, compressions, friction, Swedish gymnastics or movements,  
14 gliding, kneading, shaking, and (~~facial~~) fascial or connective tissue  
15 stretching, with or without the aids of superficial heat, cold, water,  
16 lubricants, or salts. Massage therapy does not include diagnosis or  
17 attempts to adjust or manipulate any articulations of the body or spine  
18 or mobilization of these articulations by the use of a thrusting force,  
19 nor does it include genital manipulation.

1 (3) "Massage practitioner" means an individual licensed under this  
2 chapter.

3 (4) "Secretary" means the secretary of health or the secretary's  
4 designee.

5 (5) "Massage business" means the operation of a business where  
6 massages are given.

7 (6) "Animal massage practitioner" means an individual with a  
8 license to practice massage therapy in this state with additional  
9 training in animal therapy.

10 **Sec. 2.** RCW 18.108.050 and 1997 c 297 s 3 are each amended to read  
11 as follows:

12 This chapter does not apply to:

13 (1) An individual giving massage to members of his or her immediate  
14 family;

15 (2) The practice of a profession by individuals who are licensed,  
16 certified, or registered under other laws of this state and who are  
17 performing services within their authorized scope of practice;

18 (3) Massage practiced at the athletic department of any institution  
19 maintained by the public funds of the state, or any of its political  
20 subdivisions;

21 (4) Massage practiced at the athletic department of any school or  
22 college approved by the department by rule using recognized national  
23 professional standards;

24 (5) Students enrolled in an approved massage school, approved  
25 program, or approved apprenticeship program, practicing massage  
26 techniques, incidental to the massage school or program and supervised  
27 by the approved school or program. Students must identify themselves  
28 as a student when performing massage services on members of the public.  
29 Students may not be compensated for the massage services they provide;

30 (6) Individuals who have completed a somatic education training  
31 program approved by the secretary;

32 (7) Persons who limit their practice to reflexology. For purposes  
33 of this chapter, the practice of reflexology is limited to the hands,  
34 feet, and outer ears. The services provided by those who limit their  
35 practice to reflexology are not designated or implied to be massage or  
36 massage therapy.

1        NEW SECTION.   **Sec. 3.**   A new section is added to chapter 18.108 RCW  
2 to read as follows:

3        The department of health shall review the implementation of this  
4 act and make recommendations to the legislature by December 1, 2005,  
5 regarding regulatory changes to this act.

      Passed the Senate February 18, 2002.

      Passed the House March 8, 2002.

      Approved by the Governor March 29, 2002.

      Filed in Office of Secretary of State March 29, 2002.