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**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6056**

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**State of Washington                      59th Legislature                      2006 Regular Session**

**By** Senate Committee on Agriculture & Rural Economic Development  
(originally sponsored by Senator Rasmussen)

READ FIRST TIME 01/27/06.

1            AN ACT Relating to certification of animal massage practitioners;  
2 amending RCW 18.130.040; and adding a new chapter to Title 18 RCW.

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

4            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 1.** The certification of animal massage  
5 practitioners is in the interest of the public health, safety, and  
6 welfare.

7            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 2.** The definitions in this section apply  
8 throughout this chapter unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

9            (1) "Certified animal massage practitioner" means an individual who  
10 provides external manipulation or pressure of soft tissues by use of  
11 the hands and/or body or device designed and limited to providing  
12 massage. Animal massage may include techniques such as stroking,  
13 percussions, compressions, friction, Swedish gymnastics or movements,  
14 gliding, kneading, range of motion or stretching, and fascial or  
15 connective tissue stretching, with or without the aid of superficial  
16 heat, cold, water, lubricants, or salts. Animal massage does not  
17 include diagnosis, prescription, or prognosis of conditions; attempts  
18 to adjust or manipulate any articulations of the animal's body or spine

1 or mobilization of these articulations by the use of a thrusting force;  
2 acupuncture involving the use of needles; or mechanical therapies that  
3 are restricted to the field of veterinary medicine.

4 (2) "Department" means the department of health.

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

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** Any person not licensed under chapter 18.108  
8 RCW may apply for certification as a small or large animal massage  
9 practitioner upon completion of three hundred hours of training in  
10 either large or small animal massage. Training must include animal  
11 massage techniques, kinesiology, anatomy, physiology, behavior, first  
12 aid care, and handling techniques.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** Nothing in this chapter may be construed to  
14 prohibit or restrict:

15 (1) The practice of veterinary medicine by those who are in  
16 compliance with chapter 18.92 RCW;

17 (2) The practice of animal massage by those who are in compliance  
18 with chapter 18.108 RCW; and

19 (3) The practice of animal massage therapy by a person who is a  
20 regular student in an educational program whose performance of services  
21 is pursuant to a regular course of instruction or assignments from an  
22 instructor and under the general supervision of the instructor.

23 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** In addition to any other authority provided  
24 by law, the secretary has the authority to:

25 (1) Adopt rules under chapter 34.05 RCW as required to implement  
26 this chapter;

27 (2) Establish all certification and renewal fees in accordance with  
28 RCW 43.70.250;

29 (3) Establish forms and procedures necessary to administer this  
30 chapter;

31 (4) Certify an applicant or deny certification based upon  
32 unprofessional conduct or impairment governed by the uniform  
33 disciplinary act, chapter 18.130 RCW;

34 (5) Hire clerical, administrative, investigative, and other staff  
35 as needed to implement this chapter; and

1 (6) Maintain the official department record for all applicants and  
2 persons with certifications.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** The secretary shall certify an applicant on  
4 forms provided by the secretary. Each applicant shall pay a fee  
5 determined by the secretary under RCW 43.70.250. The fee shall  
6 accompany the application.

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** The secretary shall establish by rule the  
8 procedural requirements and fees for renewal of certification. Failure  
9 to renew invalidates the certification and all privileges granted by  
10 the certification.

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 8.** The uniform disciplinary act, chapter 18.130  
12 RCW, governs the uncertified practice, the issuance and denial of  
13 certification, and the discipline of persons certified under this  
14 chapter. The secretary is the disciplining authority under this  
15 chapter.

16 **Sec. 9.** RCW 18.130.040 and 2004 c 38 s 2 are each amended to read  
17 as follows:

18 (1) This chapter applies only to the secretary and the boards and  
19 commissions having jurisdiction in relation to the professions licensed  
20 under the chapters specified in this section. This chapter does not  
21 apply to any business or profession not licensed under the chapters  
22 specified in this section.

23 (2)(a) The secretary has authority under this chapter in relation  
24 to the following professions:

25 (i) Dispensing opticians licensed and designated apprentices under  
26 chapter 18.34 RCW;

27 (ii) Naturopaths licensed under chapter 18.36A RCW;

28 (iii) Midwives licensed under chapter 18.50 RCW;

29 (iv) Ocularists licensed under chapter 18.55 RCW;

30 (v) Massage operators and businesses licensed under chapter 18.108  
31 RCW;

32 (vi) Dental hygienists licensed under chapter 18.29 RCW;

33 (vii) Acupuncturists licensed under chapter 18.06 RCW;

1 (viii) Radiologic technologists certified and X-ray technicians  
2 registered under chapter 18.84 RCW;

3 (ix) Respiratory care practitioners licensed under chapter 18.89  
4 RCW;

5 (x) Persons registered under chapter 18.19 RCW;

6 (xi) Persons licensed as mental health counselors, marriage and  
7 family therapists, and social workers under chapter 18.225 RCW;

8 (xii) Persons registered as nursing pool operators under chapter  
9 18.52C RCW;

10 (xiii) Nursing assistants registered or certified under chapter  
11 18.88A RCW;

12 (xiv) Health care assistants certified under chapter 18.135 RCW;

13 (xv) Dietitians and nutritionists certified under chapter 18.138  
14 RCW;

15 (xvi) Chemical dependency professionals certified under chapter  
16 18.205 RCW;

17 (xvii) Sex offender treatment providers and certified affiliate sex  
18 offender treatment providers certified under chapter 18.155 RCW;

19 (xviii) Persons licensed and certified under chapter 18.73 RCW or  
20 RCW 18.71.205;

21 (xix) Denturists licensed under chapter 18.30 RCW;

22 (xx) Orthotists and prosthetists licensed under chapter 18.200 RCW;

23 (xxi) Surgical technologists registered under chapter 18.215 RCW;

24 and

25 (xxii) Recreational therapists.

26 (b) The boards and commissions having authority under this chapter  
27 are as follows:

28 (i) The podiatric medical board as established in chapter 18.22  
29 RCW;

30 (ii) The chiropractic quality assurance commission as established  
31 in chapter 18.25 RCW;

32 (iii) The dental quality assurance commission as established in  
33 chapter 18.32 RCW;

34 (iv) The board of hearing and speech as established in chapter  
35 18.35 RCW;

36 (v) The board of examiners for nursing home administrators as  
37 established in chapter 18.52 RCW;

1 (vi) The optometry board as established in chapter 18.54 RCW  
2 governing licenses issued under chapter 18.53 RCW;

3 (vii) The board of osteopathic medicine and surgery as established  
4 in chapter 18.57 RCW governing licenses issued under chapters 18.57 and  
5 18.57A RCW;

6 (viii) The board of pharmacy as established in chapter 18.64 RCW  
7 governing licenses issued under chapters 18.64 and 18.64A RCW;

8 (ix) The medical quality assurance commission as established in  
9 chapter 18.71 RCW governing licenses and registrations issued under  
10 chapters 18.71 and 18.71A RCW;

11 (x) The board of physical therapy as established in chapter 18.74  
12 RCW;

13 (xi) The board of occupational therapy practice as established in  
14 chapter 18.59 RCW;

15 (xii) The nursing care quality assurance commission as established  
16 in chapter 18.79 RCW governing licenses and registrations issued under  
17 that chapter;

18 (xiii) The examining board of psychology and its disciplinary  
19 committee as established in chapter 18.83 RCW; (~~and~~)

20 (xiv) The veterinary board of governors as established in chapter  
21 18.92 RCW; and

22 (xv) Animal massage practitioners certified under chapter 18.-- RCW  
23 (sections 1 through 8 of this act).

24 (3) In addition to the authority to discipline license holders, the  
25 disciplining authority has the authority to grant or deny licenses  
26 based on the conditions and criteria established in this chapter and  
27 the chapters specified in subsection (2) of this section. This chapter  
28 also governs any investigation, hearing, or proceeding relating to  
29 denial of licensure or issuance of a license conditioned on the  
30 applicant's compliance with an order entered pursuant to RCW 18.130.160  
31 by the disciplining authority.

32 (4) All disciplining authorities shall adopt procedures to ensure  
33 substantially consistent application of this chapter, the Uniform  
34 Disciplinary Act, among the disciplining authorities listed in  
35 subsection (2) of this section.

1           NEW SECTION.   **Sec. 10.** Sections 1 through 8 of this act constitute  
2 a new chapter in Title 18 RCW.

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