

“Why Massage Licensing Is Needed-Why Massage Licensing Is Wanted”

A random survey taken 2002, asking Indiana massage therapists the questions-
“Why do you need licensing and Why do you want licensing”

A massage license is needed to:

- Protect the public
- Protect individuals who graduated from accredited Indiana massage schools that are trying to make a livable wage
- Protect the profession
- Safety for the public
- Safety for the massage therapist
- Clarify the definition of the profession
- Accountability to public and local government
- Educate the public
- Educate the medical profession
- Eliminate unqualified individuals
- Legislation for local government to act upon
- Establish a scope of practice recognized by the State
- Establish standards and ethics to follow recognized by the State
- Protect Indiana from organized adult prostitution rings migrating from the 36 states that are licensed already
- Provide Indiana citizens with the best choices of alternative health care. The massage explosion can be attributed partly to the growing population of tired, aging, and not quite as limber as they once were baby boomers and partly to an increased awareness of the effects of stress.
- Keep money in Indiana that citizens are spending in other neighboring states on the health care of their choice. Consumers are spending \$4-6 billion annually in visit to massage therapist in this country. Doctors are prescribing massage to help patients manage stress and pain. There are 160,000 and 220,000 massage therapists including students in the United States, approximately 2000 in Indiana.

All massage therapists responding wanted massage licensing-

- To be recognized as a health care profession
- To be recognized as an adjunctive or alternative realm to health care
- To work cooperatively with other health professions for the ultimate goal of improving and promoting a person’s mental, spiritual, emotional or physical health
- To rid society of inadequate practitioners who misuse massage therapy to defraud their clients causing them possible harm.