

The Nevada Board of Massage Therapy conducted a review of their statutes with an eye to increasing access to licensing for those licensed in other states.

Sections 1, 5, 6, and 8 create a credential review process to allow for a review of an applicant's education in conjunction with continuing education and recognition of hours of practice for those who may not meet the current minimum education requirement of 625 hours.

Section 2 expands the scope of practice for a reflexologist to include work on the face.

Section 3 removes a requirement to alternate the physical location of Board meetings. With the wide adoption of online meetings, the Board has noted low attendance in person. Online meetings allow participants to join from anywhere they have internet access and decrease the need for travel which results in a cost savings to the Board.

The Executive Director of the Nevada Board of Massage Therapy participated in a working group concerning the various issues faced by local jurisdictions and the regulation of massage therapists and massage establishments. After numerous meetings with Clark County, the City of Las Vegas, the City of Henderson, the City of North Las Vegas and Las Vegas Metro Police Department, we have become aware of some shortcomings of the authority over establishments granted by the Legislature in 2017. Currently the Board has no way to discipline the certificate issued to an establishment.

Section 4 sets forth the requirement for the Board to develop regulations to guide disciplinary actions against the holder of an establishment certificate.

Current statutes provide for temporary licensure that was helpful during the initial stages of creating the Board and ensuring compliance. Board staff experiences multiple requests for temporary licensure; however, the current temporary license requirements are essentially the same as regular licensure. The current statute allows a person to be issued a temporary license only once.

Sections 6 and 11 revise the criteria for a temporary license and will allow people licensed in other states, in good standing, to come work in Nevada for up to 90 days. A person could apply for subsequent temporary licenses upon expiration.

Current language requires a Board member to sign subpoenas, causing delays in investigations.

Section 9 add authority to sign subpoenas to the Executive Director allowing timely issuance of subpoenas as necessary.

With the addition of oversight of establishments in 2017 some confusion was created in regard to the requirement for license numbers to be included in advertising. Licensees are currently required to include their license number in all advertising, increasing public trust. For licensees who operate as sole practitioners, this makes perfect sense. For larger establishments, with multiple therapists working, this is unfeasible.

Section 10 add language to require an establishment to include their establishment certificate number in advertising.

Section 12 ensures adequate time to properly develop regulations prior to changes becoming effective.