

Good day to the Maine Congressional Representatives and Senators considering this interstate compact bill for licensed massage therapists.

My name is Mark Brasseur LMT from Portland Maine. I studied holistic massage at Spatech institute in Westbrook, and received my massage license in October of 2020. I attended massage school in the height of the COVID Pandemic, with even higher sanitary standards and protocols than typical massage students. I feel very fortunate that I was able to continue my program during this time. The class sizes were much smaller than normal and I was able to get a more one on one training.

After graduating, I applied for a massage license from the State of Florida, to be able to practice in that state, as I have several family members who live there. During this time of preparing to take the National Massage Exam (MBLE X) which is a part of the State of Florida's LMT licensure process. I came across the information about the newly formed compact for Licensed Massage Therapists. When I read through this proposed legislation I recognized the opportunities that this would allow LMT's. Applying for and maintaining multiple licenses to be able to practice in other states is currently problematic, costly, and confusing. This current licensing, curtails massage therapists from being able to practice outside of their home state should the opportunity or circumstance arise.

I am hoping that Maine can be one of the first states to be a part of this compact. I am hoping that the momentum on this legislation increases to include many more states that will increase mobility for practicing massage therapists throughout the United States.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

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