

CHAPTER 106

MESSAGE THERAPY — UNLAWFUL PRACTICES — AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES

S.F. 267

AN ACT relating to the practice of massage therapy, and providing penalties.

Be It Enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:

Section 1. [Section 152C.5](#), Code 2019, is amended to read as follows:

152C.5 Practice or use of title — license required.

1. The practice of massage therapy as defined in [section 152C.1](#) is strictly prohibited by unlicensed individuals. It is ~~unlawful~~ a serious misdemeanor for a person to engage in or offer to engage in the practice of massage therapy, or use in connection with the person's name, the initials "L. M. T." or the words "licensed massage therapist", "massage therapist", "masseur", "masseuse", or any other word or title that implies or represents that the person practices massage therapy, unless the person possesses a license issued under the provisions of [section 152C.3](#).

2. It shall be an affirmative defense to a prosecution for a violation of [subsection 1](#), in addition to any other affirmative defenses for which the defendant might be eligible, that the defendant is a victim of a crime that is a violation of [section 710A.2](#).

Approved May 10, 2019