



THOMAS J. VILSACK
GOVERNOR

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

SALLY J. PEDERSON
LT. GOVERNOR

April 25, 2003

The Honorable Chester Culver
Secretary of State
State Capitol Building
LOCAL

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I hereby transmit:

House File 204, an Act relating to massage therapy by providing for a study regarding the modalities associated with massage therapy and providing a temporary exemption from licensure requirements.

The above House File is hereby approved this date.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom Vilsack".

Thomas J. Vilsack
Governor

TJV:jmc

cc: Secretary of the Senate
Chief Clerk of the House





HOUSE FILE 204

AN ACT

RELATING TO MASSAGE THERAPY BY PROVIDING FOR A STUDY REGARDING THE MODALITIES ASSOCIATED WITH MASSAGE THERAPY AND PROVIDING A TEMPORARY EXEMPTION FROM LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

Section 1. NEW SECTION. 152C.5A MASSAGE THERAPY MODALITIES STUDY.

The Iowa department of public health, with input from the board, shall conduct a study regarding the modalities associated with the practice of massage therapy. The study shall be conducted with the input of licensed massage therapists, reflexologists, and unlicensed persons practicing modalities related to massage therapy. The objective of the study shall be to determine which modalities shall be included under the definition of massage therapy and require licensure, and shall include, but not be limited to, a recommendation regarding the licensure of reflexologists. The study shall focus on the health, safety, and welfare of the public regarding each of the modalities reviewed. The department shall submit a report summarizing the results of the study and making recommendations regarding modality inclusion to the general assembly by January 15, 2004.

Sec. 2. NEW SECTION. 152C.7A TEMPORARY EXEMPTIONS.

An individual who is engaged exclusively in the practice of reflexology or an unlicensed individual who is practicing a modality related to massage therapy, and whose professional practice does not incorporate aspects that constitute massage therapy as defined in section 152C.1, shall not be subject to the licensure provisions of this chapter for a one-year period

beginning July 1, 2003, and ending June 30, 2004. Beginning July 1, 2004, an individual who is engaged exclusively in the practice of reflexology or an unlicensed individual who is practicing a modality related to massage therapy shall be subject to licensure pursuant to this chapter unless, based upon the recommendations contained in the massage therapy modalities study as provided in section 152C.5A, the practice of reflexology or an unlicensed individual who is practicing a modality related to massage therapy is permanently exempted from massage therapy licensure.



CHRISTOPHER C. RANTS
Speaker of the House




MARY E. KRAMER
President of the Senate

I hereby certify that this bill originated in the House and is known as House File 204, Eightieth General Assembly.



MARGARET THOMSON
Chief Clerk of the House

Approved April 25, 2003



THOMAS J. VILSACK
Governor