

## CHAPTER NO. 232

## HOUSE BILL NO. 2030

By Representatives Odom, Shaw, Fitzhugh, Bone

Substituted for: Senate Bill No. 2082

By Senators Cooper, McNally

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 63, Chapter 18, Part 1, relative to massage therapists.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 63-18-105(b)(3)(A), is amended by deleting the existing language in its entirety and substituting instead the following language:

Successfully completed the curriculum or curriculums of one (1) or more post-secondary academic institutions for massage, bodywork or somatic therapy as defined by board regulations, totaling five hundred (500) hours or more, such institutions being approved by the board pursuant to § 63-18-115 and either authorized by the Tennessee higher education commission (or its equivalent in other states) or approved, or under the governance of, the Tennessee board of regents.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 63-18-110(b), is amended by deleting the language "and any student of a Tennessee higher education commission authorized massage school or public school of this state" and substituting instead the language "and any student of an institution described in § 63-18-105(b)(3)(A) or public school of this state".

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 63-18-104, is amended by deleting subsection (b) in its entirety and by renumbering subsequent subsections accordingly.

SECTION 4. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 63-18-105(b)(3), is amended by adding the following language as a new subdivision (C):

(C)

(a) Any person who has completed a program of study as required by § 63-18-105(b)(3)(A) in a post-secondary academic institution located in Tennessee and receives a diploma or certificate prior to September 1, 2005, shall be issued a license without completing the examination requirement of this section.

(b) Any person who meets the requirements of subdivision (b)(3)(C)(a) shall have until January 1, 2006 to apply for such a license.

(c) Persons licensed under this subdivision shall not be considered to have national certification and shall not hold themselves out to be nationally certified.

SECTION 5. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 63-18-115, is amended by adding the following language as a new subdivision (5):

(5) Annually publish passage rates for each school of massage therapy, based upon the results of each student's success in taking a national examination approved by the board. Schools which fail to achieve an overall passing rate of seventy percent (70%) shall be required to submit a remedial plan to be approved by the board.

SECTION 6. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.

**PASSED: May 9, 2005**

  
JIMMY NAIFEH, SPEAKER  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

  
JOHN S. WILDER  
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

APPROVED this 27<sup>th</sup> day of May 2005

  
PHIL BREDESEN, GOVERNOR