

2954

2013-2014 Regular Sessions

I N   S E N A T E

January 25, 2013

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Introduced by Sen. LATIMER -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Higher Education

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to the licensing and regulation of the profession of reflexology

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1     Section 1. The education law is amended by adding a new article 155-A  
2     to read as follows:

3                             ARTICLE 155-A  
4                             REFLEXOLOGY

5     SECTION 7850. INTRODUCTION.

6             7851. DEFINITIONS.

7             7852. PRACTICE OF REFLEXOLOGY AND USE OF TITLE "REFLEXOLOGIST".

8             7853. STATE BOARD FOR REFLEXOLOGY.

9             7854. REQUIREMENTS FOR A PROFESSIONAL LICENSE.

10            7855. EXEMPT PERSONS.

11            7856. LIMITED PERMITS.

12            7857. SPECIAL PROVISIONS.

13     S 7850. INTRODUCTION. THIS ARTICLE APPLIES TO THE PROFESSION OF  
14     REFLEXOLOGY. THE GENERAL PROVISIONS FOR ALL PROFESSIONS CONTAINED IN  
15     ARTICLE ONE HUNDRED THIRTY OF THIS TITLE APPLY TO THIS ARTICLE.

16     S 7851. DEFINITIONS. AS USED IN THIS ARTICLE THE FOLLOWING TERMS SHALL  
17     HAVE THE FOLLOWING MEANINGS:

18     1. "BOARD" MEANS THE STATE BOARD FOR REFLEXOLOGY CREATED BY SECTION  
19     SEVENTY-EIGHT HUNDRED FIFTY-THREE OF THIS ARTICLE.

20     2. "PRACTITIONER" MEANS A PERSON WHO PRACTICES REFLEXOLOGY FOR COMPEN-  
21     SATION AND WHO HOLDS CURRENT CERTIFICATION FROM AN ENTITY APPROVED BY  
22     THE COMMISSIONER.

23     3. "REFLEXOLOGY" MEANS THE SYSTEMATIC APPLICATION OF ALTERNATING PRES-  
24     SURE BY THE USE OF A PRACTITIONER'S HANDS, THUMBS AND FINGERS TO REFLEX  
25     POINTS ON AN INDIVIDUAL'S HANDS, FEET, FACE OR EARS, USING ALTERNATING

EXPLANATION--Matter in *ITALICS* (underscored) is new; matter in brackets  
[ ] is old law to be omitted.

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PRESSURE AND SUCH TECHNIQUES AS THUMB AND FINGER WALKING, HOOK AND BACK UP, AND ROTATION ON A REFLEX FOR THE PURPOSE OF HEALTH PROMOTION.

S 7852. PRACTICE OF REFLEXOLOGY AND USE OF TITLE "REFLEXOLOGIST". ONLY A PERSON LICENSED OR AUTHORIZED PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE SHALL PRACTICE REFLEXOLOGY AND ONLY A PERSON SO LICENSED SHALL USE THE TITLE "REFLEXOLOGIST". NO PERSON, FIRM, PARTNERSHIP, LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY OR CORPORATION SHALL DESCRIBE ITS SERVICES IN ANY MANNER UNDER THE TITLE "REFLEXOLOGY" UNLESS SUCH SERVICES ARE PERFORMED BY A PERSON LICENSED OR AUTHORIZED PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE.

S 7853. STATE BOARD FOR REFLEXOLOGY. 1. A STATE BOARD FOR REFLEXOLOGY SHALL BE ESTABLISHED AND APPOINTED BY THE BOARD OF REGENTS ON THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE COMMISSIONER FOR THE PURPOSE OF ASSISTING THE BOARD OF REGENTS AND THE DEPARTMENT ON MATTERS OF PROFESSIONAL LICENSING AND PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION SIXTY-FIVE HUNDRED EIGHT OF THIS TITLE. THE BOARD SHALL BE COMPOSED OF NOT LESS THAN SEVEN PERSONS, FOUR OF WHOM SHALL HAVE BEEN ENGAGED IN THE TEACHING, RESEARCH OR PRACTICE OF REFLEXOLOGY FOR AT LEAST THREE YEARS, TWO OF WHOM SHALL BE PHYSICIANS OR NURSES LICENSED IN THIS STATE AND ONE WHO SHALL BE A PUBLIC MEMBER REPRESENTING CONSUMERS AND THE COMMUNITY. AN EXECUTIVE SECRETARY TO THE BOARD SHALL BE APPOINTED BY THE BOARD OF REGENTS ON RECOMMENDATION OF THE COMMISSIONER.

2. THE BOARD OF REGENTS AND THE COMMISSIONER, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE BOARD, SHALL PROMULGATE SUCH RULES AND REGULATIONS AS THEY DEEM NECESSARY AND APPROPRIATE TO EFFECTUATE THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ARTICLE.

S 7854. REQUIREMENTS FOR A PROFESSIONAL LICENSE. 1. TO QUALIFY FOR A LICENSE AS A REFLEXOLOGIST, AN APPLICANT SHALL FULFILL THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS:

(A) APPLICATION: FILE AN APPLICATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT;

(B) CERTIFICATE: HOLD A CURRENT CERTIFICATE FROM THE AMERICAN REFLEXOLOGY CERTIFICATION BOARD (ARCB) OR ANY OTHER INDEPENDENT NATIONAL CERTIFICATION PROGRAM APPROVED BY THE BOARD;

(C) EDUCATION: HAVE RECEIVED AN EDUCATION, INCLUDING HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION AND GRADUATION FROM A SCHOOL OR INSTITUTE OF REFLEXOLOGY WITH A PROGRAM REGISTERED BY THE DEPARTMENT, OR ITS SUBSTANTIAL EQUIVALENT IN BOTH SUBJECT MATTER AND EXTENT OF TRAINING, PROVIDED THAT THE PROGRAM IN SUCH A SCHOOL OR INSTITUTE SHALL CONSIST OF TRAINING FOR A TOTAL OF NOT LESS THAN TWO HUNDRED HOURS IN SUBJECTS SATISFACTORY TO THE DEPARTMENT;

(D) EXAMINATION: PASS AN EXAMINATION SATISFACTORY TO THE BOARD AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE COMMISSIONER'S REGULATIONS;

(E) AGE: BE AT LEAST EIGHTEEN YEARS OF AGE;

(F) CITIZENSHIP OR IMMIGRATION STATUS: BE A UNITED STATES CITIZEN OR AN ALIEN LAWFULLY ADMITTED FOR PERMANENT RESIDENCE IN THE UNITED STATES;

(G) CHARACTER: BE OF GOOD MORAL CHARACTER AS DETERMINED BY THE DEPARTMENT;

(H) CRIMINAL BACKGROUND: SUBMIT A STATEMENT CERTIFYING THAT THE APPLICANT HAS NOT BEEN CONVICTED IN THIS STATE OR IN ANY OTHER STATE FOR ANY CRIME INVOLVING VIOLENCE INFLICTED ON A PERSON OR THREATENED AGAINST A PERSON, OR ANY SEXUALLY-RELATED CRIME; AND

(I) FEES: PAY FEES REQUIRED IN RULES ADOPTED BY THE DEPARTMENT AND THE BOARD OF REGENTS.

2. LICENSES SHALL BE VALID FOR FOUR YEARS.

S 7855. EXEMPT PERSONS. NOTHING CONTAINED IN THIS ARTICLE SHALL BE CONSTRUED TO PROHIBIT:

1. THE PRACTICE OF REFLEXOLOGY BY ANY PERSON WHO IS AUTHORIZED TO PRACTICE MEDICINE, NURSING, OSTEOPATHY, CHIROPRACTIC, PHYSIOTHERAPY,

1 PODIATRY OR MASSAGE THERAPY IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THIS  
2 TITLE.

3 2. THE PRACTICE OF THAT FORM OF MASSAGE WHICH IS CUSTOMARILY GIVEN IN  
4 BARBER SHOPS OR BEAUTY PARLORS FOR THE PURPOSE OF BEAUTIFICATION BY ANY  
5 LICENSED BARBER OR COSMETOLOGIST.

6 3. THE PRACTICE OF REFLEXOLOGY BY ANY PERSON EMPLOYED IN A MEDICAL  
7 INSTITUTION LICENSED OR CHARTERED BY THE STATE OF NEW YORK, PROVIDED  
8 THAT SUCH PERSON IS UNDER THE ON-SITE SUPERVISION OF THE PERSON LICENSED  
9 TO PRACTICE REFLEXOLOGY OR AUTHORIZED TO PRACTICE REFLEXOLOGY PURSUANT  
10 TO SUBDIVISION ONE OF THIS SECTION OR BY ANY PERSON ENROLLED IN THE  
11 PROGRAM OF A SCHOOL OR INSTITUTE OF REFLEXOLOGY REGISTERED BY THE  
12 DEPARTMENT OR ENROLLED IN A PROGRAM WHICH SATISFIES THE REQUIREMENTS OF  
13 SECTION SEVENTY-EIGHT HUNDRED FIFTY-FOUR OF THIS ARTICLE, PROVIDED THAT  
14 SUCH PERSON IS UNDER THE ON-SITE SUPERVISION OF A PERSON LICENSED TO  
15 PRACTICE REFLEXOLOGY OR AUTHORIZED TO PRACTICE REFLEXOLOGY PURSUANT TO  
16 SUBDIVISION ONE OF THIS SECTION.

17 S 7856. LIMITED PERMITS. 1. THE DEPARTMENT MAY ISSUE A LIMITED PERMIT  
18 TO PRACTICE REFLEXOLOGY AS A LICENSED REFLEXOLOGIST TO A PERSON WHO HAS  
19 NOT PREVIOUSLY HELD SUCH A PERMIT AND WHO FULFILLS ALL EXCEPT THE EXAM-  
20 INATION AND CITIZENSHIP REQUIREMENTS FOR A LICENSE, PROVIDED HOWEVER  
21 THAT A PERMIT SHALL NOT BE ISSUED TO A PERSON WHO HAS FAILED THE STATE  
22 LICENSING EXAMINATION.

23 2. THE LIMITED PERMIT SHALL BE VALID FOR A PERIOD OF NOT MORE THAN  
24 TWELVE MONTHS OR UNTIL THE RESULTS OF THE NEXT LICENSING EXAMINATION FOR  
25 WHICH THE PERSON IS ELIGIBLE ARE OFFICIALLY AVAILABLE, WHICHEVER COMES  
26 FIRST.

27 3. A LIMITED PERMIT SHALL ENTITLE THE HOLDER TO PRACTICE REFLEXOLOGY  
28 ONLY UNDER THE PERSONAL SUPERVISION OF A PERSON CURRENTLY LICENSED TO  
29 PRACTICE REFLEXOLOGY IN THIS STATE.

30 4. THE FEE FOR A LIMITED PERMIT SHALL BE REQUIRED AND SHALL BE AS  
31 ADOPTED IN THE RULES OF THE DEPARTMENT AND THE BOARD OF REGENTS.

32 S 7857. SPECIAL PROVISIONS. 1. NOTWITHSTANDING THE REQUIREMENTS OF  
33 SECTIONS SEVENTY-EIGHT HUNDRED FIFTY-FOUR AND SEVENTY-EIGHT HUNDRED  
34 FIFTY-SIX OF THIS ARTICLE, AN INDIVIDUAL CURRENTLY ENGAGING IN THE PRAC-  
35 TICE OF REFLEXOLOGY MAY CONTINUE TO PRACTICE AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF  
36 THIS ARTICLE, WHEN AN INDIVIDUAL FULFILLS ALL EXCEPT THE CERTIFICATION  
37 AND APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION SEVENTY-EIGHT HUNDRED FIFTY-FOUR  
38 OF THIS ARTICLE. SUCH INDIVIDUAL SHALL HAVE EIGHTEEN MONTHS TO ATTAIN  
39 SUCH CERTIFICATION FROM THE AMERICAN REFLEXOLOGY CERTIFICATION BOARD AND  
40 APPLY FOR A LICENSE TO PRACTICE REFLEXOLOGY.

41 2. FOR THE PURPOSES OF SUBDIVISION ONE OF THIS SECTION, IT SHALL BE  
42 DETERMINED THAT THE FILING OF AN APPLICATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT ON OR  
43 BEFORE THE EXPIRATION OF THE EIGHTEEN MONTH PERIOD SHALL QUALIFY FOR  
44 PURPOSES OF SUCH SUBDIVISION, REGARDLESS OF THE TIME PERIOD REQUIRED FOR  
45 PROCESSING SUCH APPLICATION.

46 3. ANY CERTIFICATION FROM THE AMERICAN REFLEXOLOGY CERTIFICATION BOARD  
47 WHICH HAS BEEN ISSUED PRIOR TO THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS ARTICLE SHALL  
48 BE DEEMED VOID AND INVALID IF THE HOLDER HAS NOT MET THE EDUCATIONAL  
49 REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION SEVENTY-EIGHT HUNDRED FIFTY-FOUR OF THIS ARTI-  
50 CLE.

51 S 2. The department of education shall transmit to the state comp-  
52 troller for deposit in the special revenues account of the department of  
53 education all fees submitted to such department pursuant to sections  
54 7854 and 7855 of the education law as added by section one of this act.

55 S 3. This act shall take effect on the sixtieth day after it shall  
56 have become a law.