

January 29, 2014

Carolyn Bloom, PT

Kansas Physical Therapy Association Legislative Committee Member

1045 SW Gage Blvd.

Topeka, KS 66604 785.273.7700

House Health and Human Services Committee

Re: HB 2187 Massage Therapy Licensure

Honorable Committee Members:

Thank you for allowing me to speak on behalf of the Kansas Physical Therapy Association regarding this bill on regulation of massage therapists in Kansas. Our concern is the language that indicates limiting use of the words 'massage, massage therapy and acupressure' that may impede the scope of Kansas physical therapy services which has included for decades the practice of massage, including acupressure.

Physical therapists are recognized as official health care providers and PTs utilize the AMA's CPT physical medicine billing codes which include #97124 defined as 'massage'. We cannot be limited from use of this procedure definition and use of the term 'massage or massage therapy'.

On page #3, line 40, this bill states it does not prohibit services of acupressure or massage, but then clearly limits use of the terms 'massage and massage therapy' on page 5, lines 3 to 6. Additional language in question in HB 2187 is in sections 9, 10 and 11. On page 4, (9) lines 35-37, then on page 5, lines 10-11 and 22-27.

(human body while engaged within the scope of practice of a profession, provided that their services are not designated or implied to be massage or massage therapy).

When the licensure law for physical therapy/physical therapists was written, the massage therapy association was very clear to not allow our law to prevent others using the terms that included massage and massage therapy. We respectfully request the same now. If this language cannot be removed or changed, the KPTA cannot support passage of this bill.

Thank you for this consideration in editing the language of HB 2187.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Bloom, PT

