
MEDICAL BOARD

- Creates the Massage Therapy Advisory Council to make recommendations to the State Medical Board regarding issues affecting the practice of massage therapy.

Massage Therapy Advisory Council

(R.C. 4731.152)

The bill requires the State Medical Board to appoint a Massage Therapy Advisory Council to advise the Board on issues relating to the practice of massage therapy. The advisory council must consist of not more than seven individuals knowledgeable in the area of massage therapy, including at least one physician who is a member of the State Medical Board, one massage therapy educator, and one individual who is not a member of any health care profession to represent consumers. The American Massage Therapy Association and the Associated Bodywork and Massage Professionals, or their successor organizations, may each nominate up to three individuals for consideration by the Board. A majority of the council members must be licensed massage therapists engaged in active practice.

The Board must make initial appointments to the advisory council within 90 days. Initial members serve one-, two-, or three-year terms as selected by the Board. Subsequent members serve three-year terms. Members serve without compensation but may be reimbursed for expenses incurred while performing official duties.

The advisory council must meet at least four times a year and may submit recommendations to the Board regarding issues affecting the practice of massage therapy, including requirements for licensure and renewal, the administration and enforcement of the laws governing the practice of massage therapy, standards for approval of educational programs, standards of practice and ethical conduct, and the safe and effective practice of massage therapy, including scope of practice and minimal standards of care.