

Vermont Licensing—Sample Advocacy Letter

[Dear elected official,]

I am a [professional massage therapist/instructor/school owner] and a constituent in your district. I am writing today in support of [House Bill 623](#) (H623), which would create statewide licensure for massage therapists in Vermont.

Forty-five states, Washington, D.C., and Puerto Rico require massage therapists to be licensed. It's time for Vermont to align with the majority of the country and join these other states in adopting statewide licensure.

Passing H623 would positively benefit the massage therapy community by:

- Standardizing educational requirements and establishing qualifications and competencies for entry-level practitioners
- Providing a statewide scope of practice and professional guidelines, creating professional uniformity
- Increasing public protection by implementing processes to address ethical violations, license revocations from other states, and convictions relevant to the practice of massage therapy
- Improving portability for professionals who relocate or practice across state lines by enabling Vermont therapists to qualify for licensure-by-endorsement in other states, thereby avoiding unnecessary exams or additional education hours currently required to prove eligibility by endorsement in other states

Statewide massage therapy licensure is necessary in Vermont: a vast improvement compared to the registration system currently in place. Proof of training, minimum education hours, and competency examinations are not required at this time. As such, the registration offers almost no regulation and does not protect practitioners or the public.

As a therapist with [list your qualifications], statewide licensure will give credibility to the massage profession that is long overdue. **I urge you to join the 45 other states that license massage therapy to support a unified standard of practice, enhanced public protection, and a stronger massage community.**

Thank you for your consideration,

[Your name]