

## **HOUSE BILL 451:**

## Regulate Massage & Bodywork Therapy Estmts.

## 2017-2018 General Assembly

House Finance. If favorable, re-refer to Date: **Committee:** June 15, 2017

Judiciary I

**Introduced by:** Reps. McNeill, Bert Jones, R. Turner, Hurley **Prepared by: Greg Roney** 

**Analysis of:** First Edition Committee Counsel

OVERVIEW: House Bill 451 would require massage and bodywork therapy establishments to be licensed by the NC Board of Massage and Bodywork Therapy. The new license has a fee schedule.

CURRENT LAW: The NC Board of Massage and Bodywork Therapy licenses and regulates individual therapists but not the establishment.

BILL ANALYSIS: House Bill 451 would expand the authority of the NC Board of Massage and Bodywork Therapy to regulate and license establishments where licensed therapists work.

Specifically, a license to operate an establishment requires:

- Proof of property damage and bodily injury liability insurance coverage.
- Fingerprint cards and consent to a criminal history record check.
- Proof of good moral character.
- Self-evaluation inspection report.
- Proof that the establishment employs massage and bodywork therapists who hold a current license.

The new license has the following fee schedule: Application for license: \$20, Initial license fee: \$150, License renewal: \$100, Late renewal penalty: \$75, Duplicate license: \$25, Inspection of establishment: \$150. The fee schedule is identical to the existing fee schedule for individual licenses with the addition of the \$150 inspection fee.

A new criminal offense punishable as a Class 1 misdemeanor applies for violations of the license requirements for establishments.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** House Bill 451 would be effective October 1, 2017.

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