

North Dakota Reflexology Board

624 Main Ave, Suite 2E | Fargo, ND 58103

Testimony on SB 2065 Richelle Presser, Licensed Reflexologist ND Board of Reflexology Secretary/Treasurer

Workforce Development Committee Friday, January 6, 2023, 11:00 a.m. Fort Lincoln Room, State Capitol

Good morning, Chairman Wobbema and members of the Workforce Development Committee. My name is Richelle Presser. I am a licensed reflexologist from Turtle Lake, also practicing in Bismarck, as well as the Secretary/Treasurer of the ND Reflexology Board.

I am here today to testify in favor of and to submit amendments to Senate Bill 2065.

Reflexology is a non-invasive, stand-alone natural discipline recognized by the National Institute of Health (NIH) and the National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine (NCCAM). Both fund research projects on various natural health disciplines, including reflexology.

This bill will allow licensed reflexologists a wider scope of practice and the ability to do techniques learned at seminars, such as Thai Reflexology, which involves working on the feet and calf, the use of tools, such as a Thai stick, and Facial Reflexology, which can also involve the use of tools. This type of reflexology is equally effective.

Currently, those with just a reflexology license are at a competitive and financial disadvantage compared to those with both a massage and a reflexology license. The cost of attending in person seminars is anywhere between \$300-\$350. Online classes are available, some are less expensive, some are more, but investing in the education for these trainings and not being allowed to use them or the techniques learned is a barrier we would like to remove.

The Board would like to continue to have licensed reflexologists sit on the Board. An amendment is being submitted to address wording removed in error by the Legislative Council from the pre-filed bill. The Board wants to remain separate from other hands-on practices.

The Board would like to establish, adopt, and enforce Administrative Rules that clarify how to become licensed based on reflexology educational background, character references, and testing results.

The Board would like to address acceptable continuing education and how to renew licenses in Administrative Rules. The Board supports professional standards and ethics of National organizations that promote Reflexology.

The Board would also like to show more clearly when a license needs to be renewed.

Finally, the Board has received reports of several people or businesses across ND that are doing or advertising reflexology without a license. Currently, there is no way to address concerns brought to us. Therefore, we would like to add a penalty so we can notify these people and businesses that we have been contacted, and we can report them to the State. This is consistent with those that do similar modalities without a license.

Chairman Wobbema and members of the committee, thank you for your consideration of Senate Bill 2065 and its amendments. I would be happy to answer any questions you may have.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO SENATE BILL NO. 2065

Page 2, Line 2, after "licensed" strike "reflexologists"

Page 2, Line 5, after "board." insert "Members must hold a current license issued by the board."

Page 4, Line 27, after "renewed" strike "after"

Page 4, Line 27, after "first" insert "or later"

Renumber accordingly