

Colorado Coalition of Massage Therapists
Teleconference 04-18-2018

In attendance:

David Abbott, AMTA member
Christen Corvington, AMTA member
Laura Embleton, ABMP Government Relations Director
David Gray, AMTA/GR member
Cheryl Johnson, Colorado School of Healing Arts
Roger Patrizio, Colorado Massage Institute
Tami Schumacher, AMTA – Colorado Chapter President
Tsy Schupack, CCMT volunteer; ABMP member
Chris Smith, Colorado School of Healing Arts
Kathryn Stewart, CCMT volunteer; AMTA member
Garin Vorthman, Colorado Legislative Services; state lobbyist
Alfred Westlake, AMTA and ABMP member
Kris Wills, Colorado School of Healing Arts

1) State legislation:

- No state level bills or legislation at this time.
- MTLAD see agenda item for update
- Enforcement issues – Garin has contacted DORA with concerns and is awaiting response from DORA
- Establishment licensing ordinances – Garin has been in contact with Colorado Municipal League (CML) lobbyist regarding:
 - How to work with CML to develop educational materials for municipalities
 - Interest in working towards a model ordinance
- Tami inquired of Garin if the CML contact mentioned any other known ordinances in the works at this time to which Garin responded Aurora is the only known ongoing proposed ordinance of which CML is aware
- Christen inquired is there a best possible way to develop and provide information, possibly inviting law enforcement and other stakeholders to the table to provide solutions that do not impose greater regulation
- Laura will investigate Trevor's suggestion of considering a state level statute similar to the Pawn Shop Act to provide state-wide uniformed regulation
- Laura mentioned hoping that the Aurora Ordinance might become a model which could be used by other municipalities and cities in other states
- Kathryn reaffirmed opposition and the need to fight any regulation that includes derogatory language of the industry

2) National legislation:

- No report

3) City of Aurora proposed massage facility/establishment license ordinance update:

- Laura, Chris, Tsy and Kris attended the 04-16-2018 Council Study Session
- The vote by council was unanimous to progress the ordinance
- Council members comments and questions mirrored those raised by the industry—why does eradication of human trafficking require greater regulation on a legitimate industry, will such an ordinance simply push bad actors to neighboring cities, what constitutes a solo practitioner—in general council considered the needs of multiple stakeholders
- All things considered, and all stakeholders considered, the current ordinance is best described as meeting the needs of the greater good

- Questions were raised as to what the next steps are in the proposed ordinance process—Laura will inquire of Trevor as to possible future dates/activities and the public release of the study session document
- Kathryn inquired of the best way to educate and advise Aurora therapists of public comment opportunities
- Laura mentioned ABMP membership could be narrowed to advise Aurora members

4) Massage Therapy Legislative Awareness Day at State Capitol (MTLAD):

- Tuesday, April 17, 2018 - 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
- David Gray reports the event as a success with 2 of 11 committed volunteer therapists participating
- Garin reported this is a highly anticipated and attended event—people were waiting at the starting time to be involved and receive massage
- Laura reported that the comment was received ‘This is the best form of lobbying’
- Approximately 60 massages were performed during the event
- Suggestions were made to give consideration to scheduling the event earlier in the session, providing more lead time to recruit volunteers, and allow supervised student participation
- Roger, Tami, Chris, Kathryn noted how this may be worked into educational offerings providing opportunity to include political activism through being involved in the greater profession and relationship with legislators
- ABMP and AMTA alternate years as being lead on MTLAD—2019 will coordinate with ABMP as lead

5) CCMT Moving forward-- CCMT organizational:

- Volunteer positions and guidelines to be further developed in the coming month

6) Agenda for next teleconference 05-02-2018 at 8:00 a.m.

Phone number 1 (571) 317-3112, access code 643 934 973

- 1) State legislation update
 - DORA discussion re enforcement
- 2) National legislation update
- 3) Aurora ordinance update
- 4) MTLAD update/follow up
- 5) CCMT organizational development

If you wish to propose an agenda item for the next meeting please contact: ccmtonline@gmail.com