

2017 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 498

BY REPRESENTATIVE PEARSON

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

MASSAGE THERAPISTS: Provides for an exemption to massage therapy licensure requirements

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 37:3564(A) and to enact R.S. 37:3553(B)(2)(d), relative to
3 massage therapy licensure exemptions; to exempt registered nurses from the massage
4 therapy licensure requirement; to authorize registered nurses to use certain words in
5 advertising; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 37:3564(A) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S.
8 37:3553(B)(2)(d) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

9 §3553. Application of Chapter; exceptions and exemptions

10 * * *

11 B.

12 * * *

13 (2) This Chapter shall also not apply to any of the following:

14 * * *

15 (d) A registered nurse licensed pursuant to R.S. 37:911 et seq. if both of the
16 following conditions are met:

17 (i) The massage services provided to a patient are incidental to the nursing
18 services provided to the patient.

- (2) The licensed registered nurse providing the massage services does not advertise as a massage therapist otherwise required to be licensed as such.

Present law prohibits a person not holding a license as a massage therapist, physical therapist, or chiropractor, a certificate to practice athletic training, or a license as a massage establishment from using the words "massage", "body work", or any derivative or variation of the word "massage", including specific bodywork or massage modalities, on any sign or other form of advertising.

Proposed law retains present law but adds registered nurses to the list of exempted occupations.

Effective upon signature of the governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 37:3564(A); Adds R.S. 37:3553(B)(2)(d))