



Colorado

https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/dora/Massage_Therapy

Contact Information

Department of Regulatory Agencies
Office of Professions and Occupations
Office of Massage Therapy Licensure

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Colorado licenses massage, but exempts Structural Integration by statute. If a system of exploitation of the profession for criminal activity arises, the Director of DORA may revoke exemption. It is unclear if the revocation is for the person(s) who violate the law or the entire profession. This is new as of Spring 2016, and the rules related to this issue have yet to be written. If you are affected by the laws and rules, we recommend you contact DORA and put your name on the stakeholders list and become active in shaping the regulations (rules) related to your profession. Colorado does not have a massage board; it has a regulatory agency. The members are not massage therapists. They are state employees, bureaucrats charged with regulating the massage profession.

Law and Regulation

https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/dora/Massage_Therapy_Laws (not updated with links to new laws and regulations, as of June 2016)

Statute

http://www.leg.state.co.us/clics/clics2016a/csl.nsf/fsbillcont3/F2396FE363C81B6A87257F240066863D?open&file=1320_enr.pdf

HB-1320

SECTION 2. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-35.5-103, amend (7) as follows:

12-35.5-103. Definitions. As used in this article, unless the context otherwise requires:

(7) "Massage" or "massage therapy" means a system of structured touch, palpation, or movement of the soft tissue of another person's body in order to enhance or restore the general health and well-being of the recipient. Such system includes, but is not limited to, techniques such as effleurage, commonly called stroking or gliding; petrissage, commonly called kneading; tapotement or percussion; friction; vibration; compression; passive and active stretching within the normal anatomical range of movement; hydromassage; and thermal massage. Such techniques may be applied with or without the aid of lubricants, salt or herbal preparations, water, heat, or a massage device that mimics or enhances the actions possible by human hands. "Massage" or "massage therapy" does not include therapeutic exercise, intentional joint mobilization or manipulation, or any of the methods described in section 12-35.5-110 (1) (e).

SECTION 4. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-35.5-110, amend (1) (e); and add (2) and (3) as follows:

12-35.5-110. Scope of article - exclusions - authority for clinical setting. (1) Nothing in this article prohibits or requires a massage therapy license for any of the following:

(e) The person provides alternative methods that employ contact and does not hold himself or herself out as a massage therapist. For the purposes of this paragraph (e), "alternative methods that employ contact" include, but are not limited to:

(IV) Structural integration practices such as Rolfing and Hellerwork; and...

(2) If there is a continued pattern of criminal behavior with arrests, complaints regarding sexual misconduct, or criminal intent that is related to human trafficking disguised as a legitimate exemption, the Director may, at his or her discretion, determine that a practice is no longer exempt from licensing pursuant to paragraph (e) of subsection (1) of this section.

Rules

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B-K5DhxXxJZbRVNKNzRoTXVGU2M/view>

As of May 2016, these rules will soon be obsolete, as they will be replaced with rules to encompass the new statutory language.

DORA

Colorado does not have a Board. It has a governmental agency staffed with non-massage bureaucrats to oversee the massage profession.

Director of the Division of Professions and Occupations: Lauren Larson

Staff: Lauren Hamby, lauren.hamby@state.co.us

Staff: Andrea Faley

Meetings

Colorado DORA is beginning a process of writing the new rules. If you are located or work in Colorado, call or email DORA (at top of this page) OR Lauren Hamby (email just above this note) to get on the stakeholder list to be part of shaping the rules and protecting the SI profession.