

FOR the purpose of exempting certain practitioners of certain therapies from the definition of massage therapy; ~~exempting certain practitioners of certain therapies from the certification and registration requirements for massage therapists; and generally relating to exemptions from the requirement for certification or registration of massage therapists.~~

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Health Occupations

Section 3-5A-01(g) and 3-5A-05(a)(2)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2000 Replacement Volume)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article - Health Occupations

3-5A-01.

(g) (1) "Massage therapy" means the use of manual techniques on soft tissues of the human body including effleurage (stroking), petrissage (kneading), tapotement (tapping), stretching, compression, vibration, and friction, with or without the aid of heat limited to hot packs and heating pads, cold water, or nonlegend topical applications, for the purpose of improving circulation, enhancing muscle relaxation, relieving muscular pain, reducing stress, or promoting health and well-being.

(2) "Massage therapy" does not include:

(i) The diagnosis or treatment of illness, disease, or injury; [or]

(ii) The adjustment, manipulation, or mobilization of any of the articulations of the osseous structures of the body or spine; OR

(III) ~~THE PRACTICE OF TECHNIQUES THAT ARE EXECUTED WITH THE RECIPIENT FULLY CLOTHED AND ARE SPECIFICALLY INTENDED TO AFFECT THE HUMAN ENERGY FIELD INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO:~~

- 1. ~~BIOENERGY;~~
- 2. ~~HEALING TOUCH;~~
- 3. ~~POLARITY;~~
- 4. ~~REFLEXOLOGY;~~
- 5. ~~REIKI;~~
- 6. ~~SHIATSU, OR~~