

By: Representative Wells-Smith

To: Public Health and Human Services

HOUSE BILL NO. 923

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 73-67-23, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,  
2 TO PROVIDE THAT THE STATE BOARD OF MASSAGE THERAPY MAY ACCEPT  
3 STATE ACCREDITED EXAMINATIONS APPROVED BY THE BOARD AS EVIDENCE OF  
4 COMPETENCY FOR THE PURPOSE OF LICENSURE AS A MASSAGE THERAPIST;  
5 AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

7 **SECTION 1.** Section 73-67-23, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
8 amended as follows:

9 73-67-23. (1) The purpose of requiring examination is to  
10 determine that each applicant for registration possesses the  
11 minimum skills and knowledge to practice competently.

12 (2) The board shall accept as evidence of competency, in  
13 addition to all other requirements as stated in this chapter, the  
14 successful completion of the "National Certification Examination  
15 for Therapeutic Massage and Bodywork" (NCETMB) and/or any other  
16 state, nationally or internationally accredited examination  
17 approved by the board.

18 (3) Eligibility requirements to take the NCETMB are set by  
19 the National Certification Board for Therapeutic Massage and  
20 Bodywork as stated in the NCETMB candidate handbook. Eligibility  
21 to take the ABTE shall be determined by the National Certification  
22 Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine as stated in the  
23 NCCAOM candidate handbook.

24 (4) An applicant for registration who has been previously  
25 registered may be required to take the NCETMB or ABTE or any other  
26 examination approved by the board and achieve a passing score  
27 before re-registration under any one (1) of the following  
28 circumstances:

29           (a) The applicant has been unregistered voluntarily for  
30 more than thirty-six (36) calendar months; or

31           (b) The board may require reexamination in any  
32 disciplinary order, based upon the findings and conclusions  
33 relative to the competency of a holder of a certificate of  
34 registration to practice massage before issuing an unconditional  
35 certificate of registration.

36           **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
37 and after July 1, 2007.