

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 26, 2000
AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 15, 2000
AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 10, 2000

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—1999–2000 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2042

Introduced by Assembly Member Briggs

February 18, 2000

An act to add Chapter 10.5 (commencing with Section 4700) to Division 2 of the Business and Professions Code, relating to equine massage.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2042, as amended, Briggs. Veterinary medicine.

Existing law prohibits the practice of veterinary medicine without a license issued by the Veterinary Medical Board but provides that specified activities relating to the care of livestock and poultry and euthanasia of animals by animal control shelter and humane society personnel are not prohibited by this requirement or by other provisions of law that pertain to veterinary medicine. Under existing law, unless excepted from this requirement, it is a crime to practice veterinary medicine without a license and to violate other provisions of law pertaining to veterinary medicine.

This bill would authorize the practice of equine massage or equine sport massage, as defined, without a veterinary medicine license and would, under provisions operative January 1, 2002, require specified training and education to

continue the practice and registration with the Veterinary Medical Board. This bill would also authorize the board to adopt rules and regulations for the conduct and practice of equine body workers, including setting fees for registration and procedures for citations and penalties.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. It is the intent of the Legislature to assist
2 the equine massage industry in establishing minimum
3 standards of education and experience for equine body
4 workers to protect the integrity of the industry and the
5 health and well-being of equines.

6 ~~The Veterinary Medical Board has acknowledged that~~
7 ~~equine massage is not subject to the Veterinary Medicine~~
8 ~~Practice Act. Therefore, it is the intent of the Legislature~~
9 ~~that persons engaging lawfully in the profession of equine~~
10 ~~massage shall not be subject to prosecution under the~~
11 ~~Veterinary Medicine Practice Act.~~

12 This act shall be known and may be cited as Equine
13 Massage.

14 SEC. 2. Chapter 10.5 (commencing with Section
15 4700) is added to Division 2 of the Business and
16 Professions Code, to read:

17
18 CHAPTER 10.5. EQUINE MASSAGE
19

20 4700. "Board" means the Veterinary Medical Board.

21 4701. "Equine massage" and "equine sport massage"
22 mean the application of massage to an equine ~~for the~~
23 ~~purpose of increasing circulation, range of motion,~~
24 ~~improving stamina or performance, relieving muscle~~
25 ~~spasms or tension, or enhancing muscle tone.~~

26 4702. "Equine body worker" means a person certified
27 to practice equine massage or equine sport massage.

28 4703. An individual, to practice equine massage or
29 equine sport massage in California, shall hold a valid
30 certificate from a school of equine massage or equine



1 sport massage that is approved by the Council for Private
2 Postsecondary and Vocational Education, the
3 Commission on Massage Therapy Accreditation, or the
4 Accrediting Council for Continuing Education and
5 Training, and registers with the Veterinary Medical
6 Board. This section shall become operative on January 1,
7 2002.

8 4704. If the board deems it necessary, the board may
9 adopt rules and regulations for the conduct and practice
10 of equine body workers, including the suspension or
11 revocation of registration and procedures for citations
12 and penalties. The amount of a citation or penalty, if
13 established by the board, shall not be less than one
14 hundred dollars (\$100) or greater ~~then~~ *than* two
15 thousand dollars (\$2,000). The board shall retain any
16 revenue received from the imposition of citations or
17 penalties for the purposes of administering this chapter.

18 The board may deny registration to any individual who
19 has committed any act that would be grounds for
20 suspension or revocation of registration.

21 The board may establish a fee to cover the cost of the
22 registration program.

23 The fee for initial registration shall not exceed
24 seventy-five dollars (\$75).

25 The fee for renewal of registration shall not exceed fifty
26 dollars (\$50).

27 4705. To receive approval under Section 4703, a
28 school shall have a program that requires a minimum of
29 250 hours of instruction and includes the following
30 components:

31 (a) A minimum of three hours in professional ethics.

32 (b) A minimum of 25 hours in equine anatomy and
33 biomechanics.

34 (c) A minimum of 15 hours of fieldwork in equine
35 anatomy and biomechanics.

36 (d) A minimum of 10 hours in methods of equine
37 handling.

38 (e) A minimum of 70 hours in the techniques of equine
39 massage.



1 (f) A minimum of 60 hours performing equine
2 massage techniques under instructor guidance.

3 The remainder of the hours shall be in additional
4 fieldwork or in courses related to equine health and
5 well-being, which may include complimentary
6 modalities to massage.

7 4706. To maintain a valid certificate an equine body
8 worker shall biennially complete a minimum of 20 hours
9 of continuing education in the area of equine massage or
10 on topics related to equine health and well-being. Courses
11 recognized by the Veterinary Medical Board for
12 continuing education credits for veterinarians and
13 veterinary practitioners that are related to equine health
14 or well-being shall be valid for credit of equivalent hours
15 under this section. This section shall become operative on
16 January 1, 2002.

