

SENATE BILL 216

J2, J5, J4

3lr1533
CF 3lr0364

By: **Senators Ellis and Augustine**

Introduced and read first time: January 23, 2023

Assigned to: Finance

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Massage Therapy – Definition and Reimbursement**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the definition of “massage therapy”; repealing a provision of
4 law that provides that certain provisions of law do not require a nonprofit health
5 insurance plan, an insurer, a health maintenance organization, or a person acting as
6 a third party administrator to reimburse a licensed massage therapist or registered
7 massage practitioner for any services rendered; and generally relating to the
8 regulation of massage therapists and massage practitioners.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
10 Article – Health Occupations
11 Section 6–101(a)
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2022 Supplement)

14 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
15 Article – Health Occupations
16 Section 6–101(f)(3)
17 Annotated Code of Maryland
18 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2022 Supplement)

19 BY repealing
20 Article – Health Occupations
21 Section 6–403
22 Annotated Code of Maryland
23 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2022 Supplement)

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

26 **Article – Health Occupations**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 6–101.

2 (a) In this title the following words have the meanings indicated.

3 (f) (3) “Massage therapy” does not include:

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

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

7 (iii) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, the laying
8 on of hands, consisting of pressure or movement on an individual who is fully clothed,
9 except for footwear, to specifically affect the electromagnetic energy or energetic field of the
10 human body.

11 [6–403.

12 This subtitle does not require a nonprofit health service plan, an insurer, a health
13 maintenance organization, or a person acting as a third party administrator to reimburse
14 a licensed massage therapist or registered massage practitioner for any services rendered
15 even though the services are within the scope of practice of the licensed massage therapist
16 or registered massage practitioner.]

17 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
18 1, 2023.