



# Virtual Membership Event September 14, 2022

## 2022 Massage Therapy Regulation Overview

# Technology Courtesies

- ❖ Please confirm your screen name and identify your state/jurisdiction
- ❖ Please mute your microphone unless speaking
- ❖ Please “raise hand” to speak or type your question/comment in the chat
- ❖ Recording the presentation portion of the meeting only

# Announcements & Reminders

## Annual Meeting – Charlotte, North Carolina

- October 18-20, 2022
- Hilton Charlotte University Place
- Registration deadline is September 19, 2022
- <https://www.fsmtb.org/member-boardsagencies/member-services/annual-meeting/>



# Virtual Membership Event

## September 14, 2022

Presented by:

Ashley Hernandez, MPA, *Government Relations Specialist, Federation of State Massage Therapy Boards*

Hunter Irons, MA, *Government Relations Specialist, Federation of State Massage Therapy Boards*

# Government Relations & Member Support

How we support you!



Ashley	Hunter
California	Alabama
Connecticut	Alaska
Delaware	Arizona
Florida	Arkansas
Georgia	Colorado
Hawaii	Indiana
Idaho	Kentucky
Illinois	Maryland
Iowa	Massachusetts
Kansas	Minnesota
Louisiana	Missouri
Maine	Nebraska
Michigan	Nevada
Mississippi	New Jersey
Montana	New York
New Hampshire	North Dakota
New Mexico	Ohio
North Carolina	Oklahoma
Oregon	South Carolina
Pennsylvania	Tennessee
Puerto Rico	US Virgin Islands
Rhode Island	Virginia
South Dakota	Washington
Texas	Washington, DC
Utah	Wisconsin
Vermont	Wyoming
West Virginia	

# Membership Resources and Services

CE Standards/CE Registry

REACH

Model Massage Therapy Practice Act

MTLD/IMpact

Virtual Membership Events

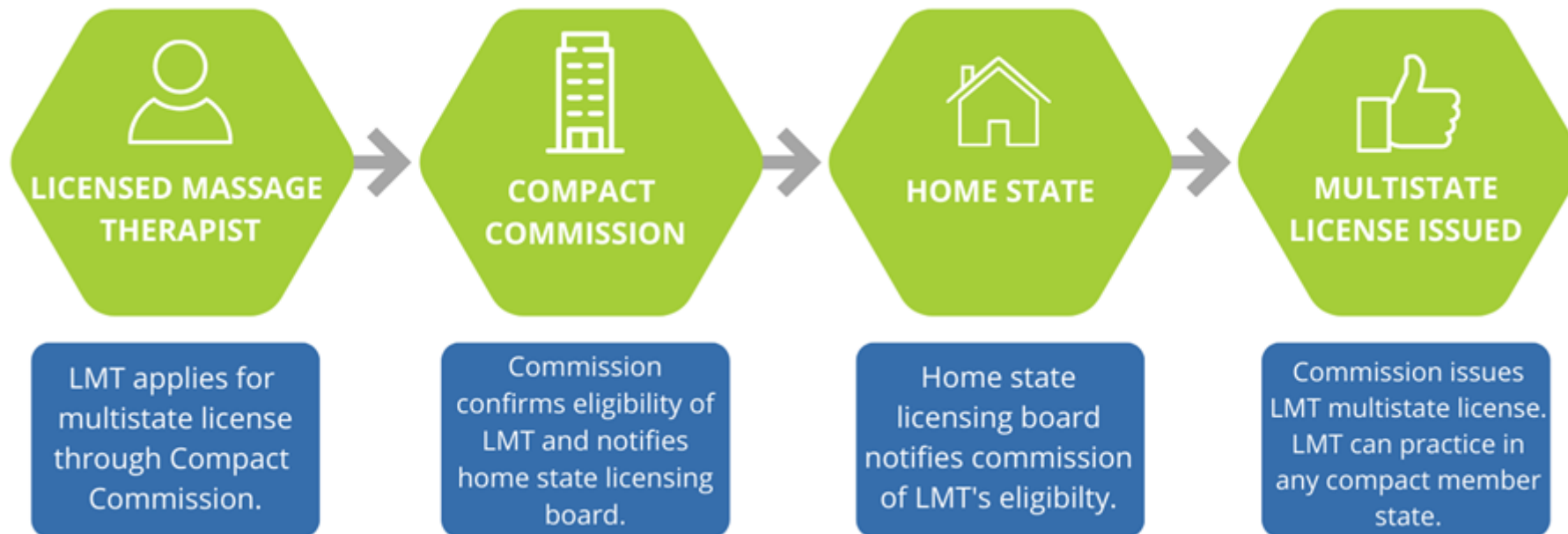
Annual Meeting

MBE Summit

Legislative Support

# Interstate Massage Compact (IMpact)

- IMpact will enable licensed massage therapists to practice in all states that join the compact.
- Each compact member state agrees to mutually recognize the practitioner licenses issued by every other state in the Massage Therapy Compact.





# MTLD (Massage Therapy Licensing Database)



Licensure Exam and  
Application Details

+



State Licensure  
Information

+



Continuing Education  
Coursework

=



Complete Therapist Profile

- Comprehensive View of Therapists
  - Contact information
  - Licensure information from multiple states
  - Disciplinary and board action
  - Core Education
  - Continuing Education

# Model Massage Therapy Practice Act



- The intent is to provide a comprehensive resource to assist regulators with statutory language based upon the collective wisdom of the Massage Therapy regulatory community.
- Developed over 42 months by Model Practice Act Task Force
- [https://www.fsmtb.org/media/1126/model\\_message\\_therapy\\_practice\\_act.pdf](https://www.fsmtb.org/media/1126/model_message_therapy_practice_act.pdf)

# CE Registry

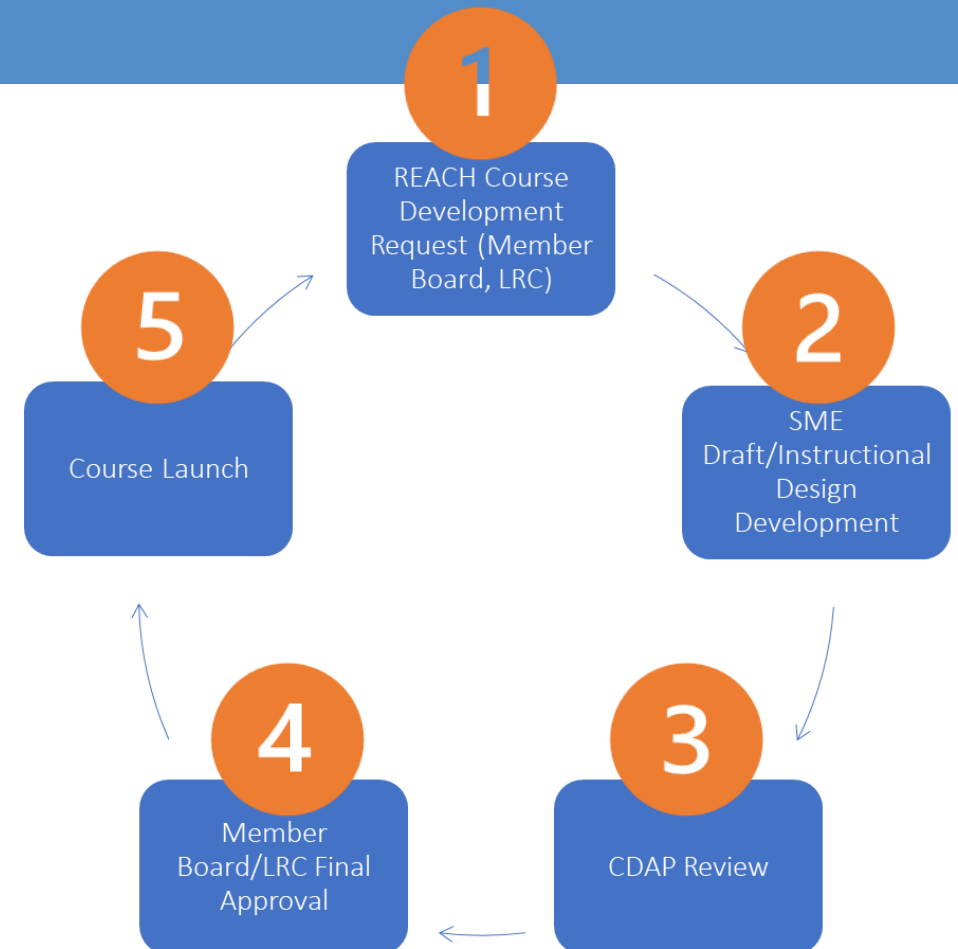
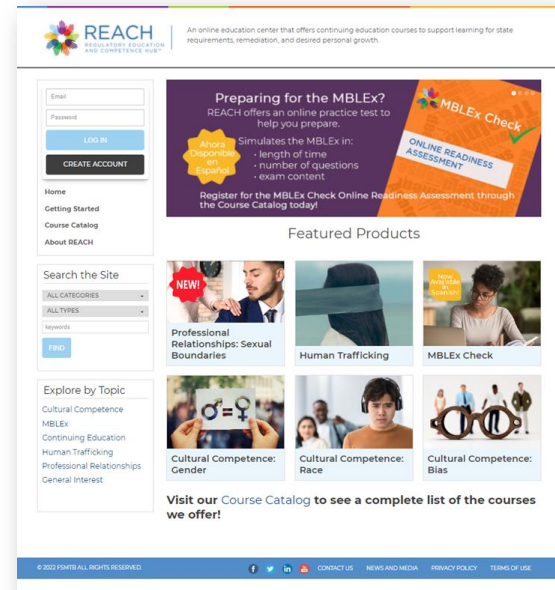
The CE Registry was developed at the request of our member boards, as a result of a proposed resolution at the October 2014 FSMTB Annual Meeting. The creation of the CE Registry sought to address four main challenges:

- Lack of uniformity in CE requirements, standards, and compliance across jurisdictions
- Lack of authority and verification for quality and appropriate continuing education courses
- Lack of a reliable source for licensed massage therapists to seek continuing education
- Lack of an efficient administrative process for the acceptance of providers and courses.

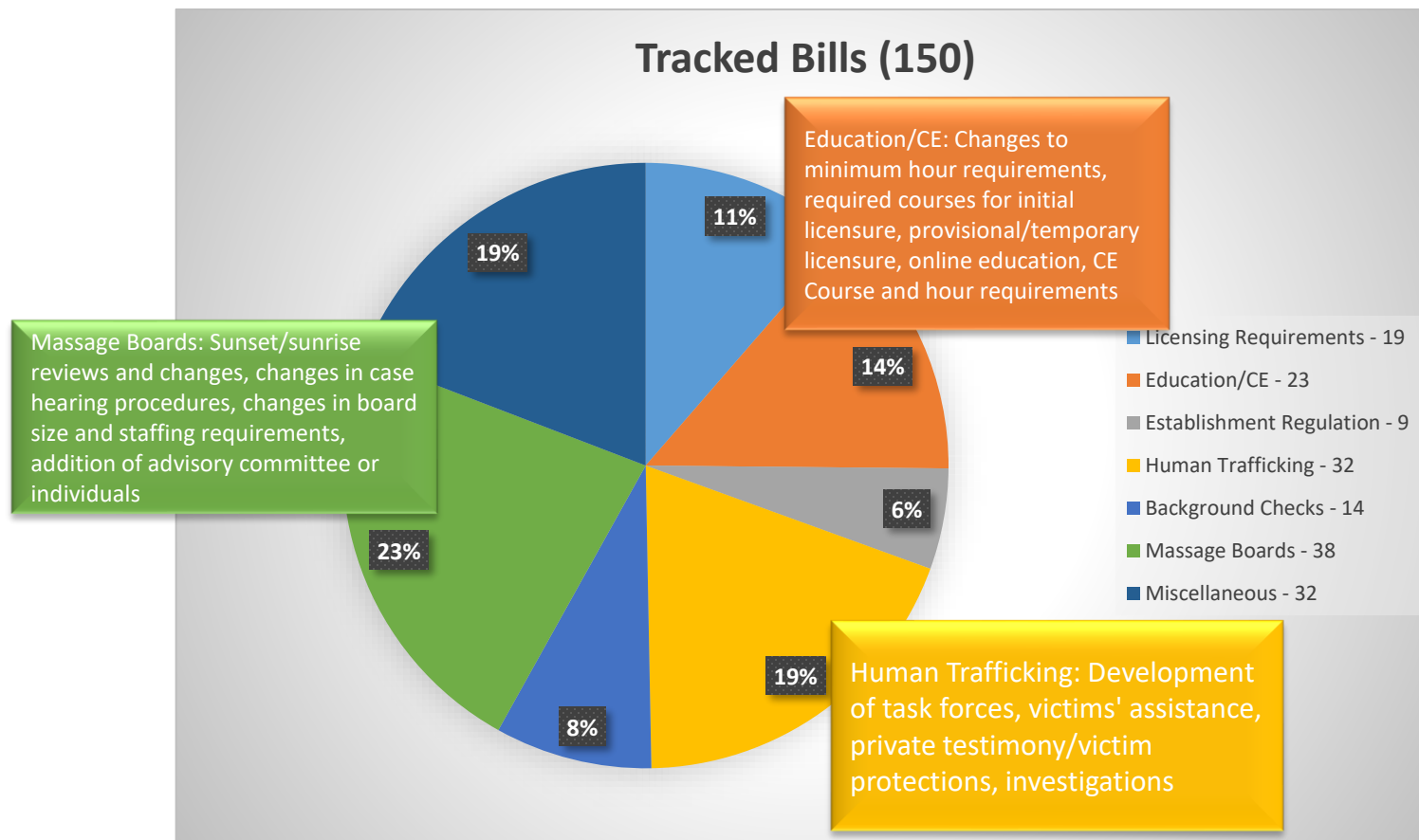


# REACH

- Course Categories
  - Cultural Competence
  - Human Trafficking
  - MBLEx Resources
  - Professional Relationships
  - Jurisprudence/Rules and Laws
- Course Development
  - North Carolina Rules and Laws
  - New Jersey Jurisprudence

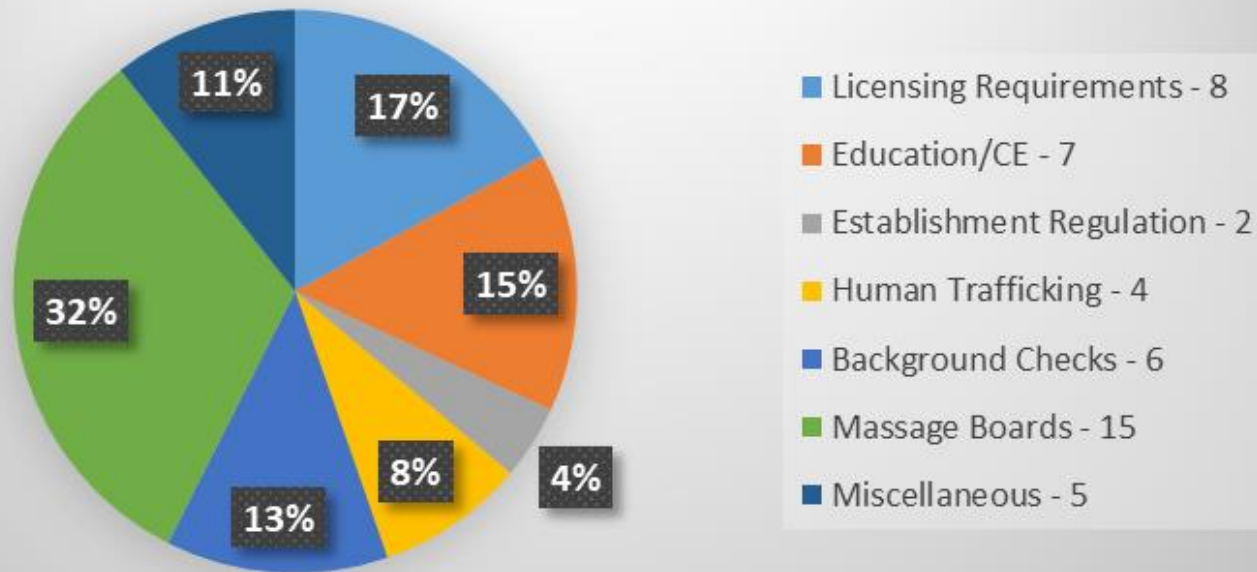


# Legislative Overview



# Legislative Overview

## Bills Passed (46)



# Legislative Testimony

## Kansas

- Support licensure of massage therapy

## California

- Support reinstatement of the MBLEx requirement

## Utah

- Oppose tiered licensure framework

## Arizona

- Provide feedback on bill language for clarification on criminal background checks and the licensing exam

## Louisiana

- Oppose unsafe reciprocity standards
- Support clear hour requirements and standards for hybrid education

## Ohio

- Oppose exemption for reflexologist

AM\_134\_1699

## OH HB 81

The proposed amendment would effectively allow illicit reflexology businesses to avoid requirements for massage therapy licensure.

Almost half of...



It does not matter whether practitioners self-identify as massage or bodywork therapists; there is an almost perfect alignment in how frequently they perform tasks, how important they think those tasks are and the importance of knowledge areas required to perform the job.



The majority of states do not exempt reflexology from massage therapy licensing

Allowing private certification instead of licensure is an improper delegation of authority

The Massage & Bodywork Licensing Exam (MBLEx) is used for licensing in Ohio and 46 additional states. The MBLEx includes input from massage and bodywork professionals, including reflexologists.



The mission of the FSMTB is to ensure that the practice of massage therapy is provided to the public safely and competently.

# Ohio



# 2021-2022 Highlights

**Utah**  
SB 180

**Maryland**  
HB 220  
SB 37  
SB 91

**California**  
AB 2687

**Louisiana**  
SB 286  
HB 240  
SB 148

**Arkansas**  
Apprenticeships/  
Tiered Licensure

**Wisconsin**  
Provisional/  
Temporary  
Licensure

# Trends

- Earn and Learn Act
- Licensing Uniformity
- Human Trafficking Commissions/Mandatory Reporting
- Second Chance Act
- Universal Licensing
- Hybrid/Distance Education



# Trends...

## Earn and Learn Act

- AR HB 1875 (2021)
  - Allow individuals to work and earn a paycheck while fulfilling licensing requirements
- MS HB 1336 (2020)
  - To allow a high school student to earn credits upon completion of a registered apprenticeship program towards their high school graduation requirements and licensure requirements

## Federally Registered Apprenticeship Programs

Mpower Education GRAPEVINE, TX	<b>MPOWER EDUCATION</b> 1452 HUGHES ROAD, SUITE 200 GRAPEVINE, TX 76051 <b>Contact:</b> Caitlin Bombard <b>Phone:</b> (501) 360-4391 <b>Supported Occupations:</b> Massage Therapists <b>Next Step:</b> Connect with Mpower Education to learn more about their apprenticeship program and how to apply. <a href="#">SEND EMAIL</a> <a href="#">Save Program</a>
M Power Education FREDERICK, MD	
Bergen Community College Healthworks PARAMUS, NJ	
Massage Career Institute of Arkansas CONWAY, AR	
River Valley School of Massage RUSSELLVILLE, AR	
Peace of St Croix Inc. (Division of Massage Academy) STROUDSBURG, PA	
Healing Therapy and Education CAMDEN, AR	
Chugach Chiropractic and Massage Center EAGLE RIVER, AK	
Revitalize Massage Skin Care And Wax WINCHESTER, VA	
Hand and Stone Massage and Facial Spa RICHMOND, VA	
ASPEN Education & Research Center OREM, UT	

[www.apprenticeship.gov](http://www.apprenticeship.gov)

# Trends...

## Licensing Uniformity

- AZ H 2612
  - Removes good moral character requirement
- AZ H 2438
  - Requires fingerprint clearance card
- IL S 2037
  - Gives fingerprinting authority solely to state police
- KY H 175
  - Authorizes national and state background check for massage therapy
- HI S 599
  - Requires LMTs to complete 12 hours of CE bi-annually

# Trends...

## Human Trafficking

### Passed

- CO H 1300
  - Grants counties authority to establish licensing ordinances to regulate massage businesses and shut down illicit massage businesses
- IL H 588
  - HT Posting in massage establishments
- LA S 148
  - Aids victims of human trafficking
- IA H 2168
  - Makes massage therapist mandatory reporters

### Introduced

- NJ A 3875/NJ S 1297
  - Expands HT commission to study HT in illicit massage business
- NY S 6040
  - Establishes an interagency HT task force
- US H 6736
  - Establishes Center for Countering Human Trafficking



# Trends...

## Second Chance Act

- DE H 404
  - Does not look at conviction older than 10 years unless it is a sex related or profession related offense
- ID S 1368
  - A criminal offense must be deemed relevant to disqualify an individual from receiving a license
- CO HB 1098
  - audit of the regulated professions and occupations and the regulation of various professions and occupations by regulators of a specific profession or occupation (regulator) to determine what barriers exist for licensing, certification, and registration of individuals with criminal history records

# Trends...

## Universal Licensing Recognition

- MI S 312
  - Licensing reciprocity for veterans, military service members and their dependents
- LA S 483
  - Recognizes licenses, work experience, and private certifications from other states for licensure

# Trends...

## Hybrid-Distance Education Changes

- LA S 286
  - Any hours above the minimum 500 can be taken real-time synchronous distance learning
- COVID has encouraged discussion around allowing part of massage education to be online



# Key External Engagements

- Presented for National Association of State Administrators and Supervisors of Private Schools (NASASPS)
- Presented for State Higher Education Executive Officers Association (SHEEO)
- FARB 2021 Regulatory Law Seminar
- FARB 2022 Forum
- CLEAR Virtual Symposium 2022
- NCSL-CSG Conference on Occupational Licensing
- FARB 2022 Innovation in Regulation Conference
- Monthly GR Touchpoints w/ ABMP & AMTA



# Contact Information

**Ashley Hernandez, MPA**

Government Relations Specialist

Federation of State Massage Therapy Boards

[ahernandez@fsmtb.org](mailto:ahernandez@fsmtb.org)

**Hunter Irons, MA**

Government Relations Specialist

Federation of State Massage Therapy Boards

[hiron@fsmtb.org](mailto:hiron@fsmtb.org)



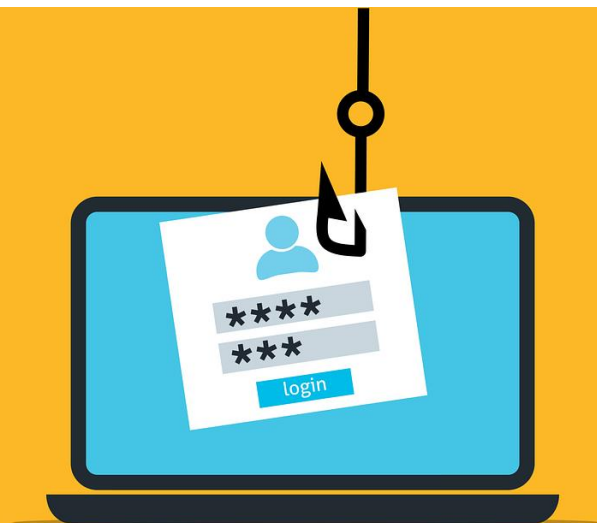
**Questions?**

**Comments?**

**Thoughts?**

(Recording will now be stopped)

**fsmtb.org | 913.681.0380**



# Next meeting's topic: 2023 FSMTB Preview

Wednesday, November 9, 2022

# Thank You!

Post-event survey will be sent out later  
today.

We welcome your feedback.