

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to massage therapy; amending s. 480.041,
3 F.S.; authorizing the Board of Massage Therapy to issue
4 temporary permits to applicants who meet certain
5 qualifications to practice massage therapy; providing for
6 the expiration of temporary permits; providing
7 limitations; amending s. 480.044, F.S.; providing for a
8 temporary permit fee; providing an effective date.

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10 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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12 Section 1. Subsection (5) is added to section 480.041,
13 Florida Statutes, to read:

14 480.041 Massage therapists; qualifications; temporary
15 permits; licensure; endorsement.—

16 (5) (a) The board may issue a temporary permit to practice
17 massage therapy to an applicant who:

18 1. Graduates from a school that is accredited by an
19 accrediting agency recognized by the United States Department of
20 Education for the agency's specialization in accrediting massage
21 therapy education.

22 2. Meets all of the qualifications for licensure under
23 this section, except for paragraphs (1) (c), (4) (b), and (4) (c).

24 (b) If an applicant desires to practice massage therapy
25 before becoming licensed by examination and completes a course
26 of study at a board-approved massage school, the applicant may
27 apply for a temporary permit in accordance with rules adopted
28 under this chapter.

HB 49

2011

29 (c) A temporary permit is valid for 6 months after
30 issuance by the board or until the applicant fails the massage
31 licensure examination or receives a massage therapist license,
32 whichever occurs first.

33 (d) An applicant for licensure by examination who
34 practices under a temporary permit may only practice massage
35 therapy under the supervision of a licensed massage therapist
36 who has a full, active, and unencumbered license.

37 Section 2. Paragraph (m) is added to subsection (1) of
38 section 480.044, Florida Statutes, to read:

39 480.044 Fees; disposition.—

40 (1) The board shall set fees according to the following
41 schedule:

42 (m) Temporary permit fee: not to exceed \$50.

43 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2011.