AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 37:3556(1)(a), relative to massage therapists; to provide relative to licensure and qualifications of massage therapists; to provide for the methods of instruction; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 37:3556(1)(a) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§3556. Licensure; qualifications

A. No person shall engage in the practice of massage therapy without a current license issued pursuant to this Chapter unless such person is exempt under the provisions of this Chapter. To receive a massage therapist license in the state of Louisiana, an applicant shall pay the application fee pursuant to R.S. 37:3562 and shall submit evidence satisfactory to the board of meeting the following requirements:

(1)(a) Has satisfactorily completed a minimum five hundred hour in-class instructor-supervised course of studies pursuant to rules promulgated by the board in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act.

(i) The five hundred hour course of studies requirement shall consist of...
in-class hours dedicated to the study of massage therapy techniques and clinical 
practicum-related modalities.

(ii) The remaining hours outside of the massage therapy curriculum can 
be a combination of online and in-class hours as approved for each individual 
massage therapy program in the state of Louisiana.

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The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part 
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Yoursheka Butler.

DIGEST

SB 286 Original 2022 Regular Session Luneau

Present law provides rules regarding licensure, qualifications, and exemptions for persons 
engaged in the practice of massage therapy.

Present law requires applicants for a massage therapist license to pay the application fee and 
submit evidence satisfactory to the La. Board of Massage Therapy that he or she has 
satisfactorily completed a minimum 500 hour in-class supervised course of studies pursuant 
to rules promulgated by the board in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act.

Proposed law retains present law but requires that the minimum five hundred hours be 
supervised by an instructor. Proposed law further provides that hours above the required 
minimum 500 hours may be a combination of online and in-class hours.

Effective August 1, 2022.

(Amends R.S. 37:3556(1)(a))