



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## CCMT to Host Statewide Public Informational Meetings on State Licensing for Massage Therapy

DENVER—September 6, 2007—Colorado is only one of 11 states in the United States that does not currently require massage therapists to be licensed in order to practice. In 1991, the Colorado Coalition of Massage Therapists (CCMT) was formed to work with government officials in drafting an equitable, enforceable, and inclusive regulation, which protects the name, the profession, and the public, with the ultimate goal of state licensure.

State licensing would mean one license and one set of rules and regulations to be followed and enforced. Currently, local governments have ordinances that can be confusing, complicated and expensive, especially if a massage therapist operates in several different cities. The goal is a reasonable law that is fair and inclusive to the profession, and protects the consumer from unsavory or unqualified individuals.

To that end, in 2006, CCMT completed a Sunrise Review Application process through the Colorado Department of Regulatory Agencies (DORA). The need for regulation of the profession will be determined based on whether the unregulated profession harms or endangers the public, whether the public would benefit from regulation, and whether the public can be protected by other means in a more cost-effective manner. DORA is currently evaluating and reviewing the application and the profession. A thorough review of the profession is performed including: history and profile, regulation in other states, the Colorado experience, and need and alternatives to regulation. DORA will provide its response to the application by October 2007.

If the DORA response is favorable and recommends licensing, CCMT will have two state legislative sessions to pass a licensing bill with the support of the DORA report.

In anticipation of a favorable report and pending legislative efforts, CCMT is holding informational meetings throughout Colorado. These meetings are of particular interest to massage therapists and health care providers so they may gather information about licensing.

(more)

<b>DATE</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>
Friday, September 14 10:00 a.m. until Noon	Colorado Institute of Massage Therapy 1490 W. Fillmore Street <b>Colorado Springs</b>
<b>NEW MEETING</b> Wednesday, September 19 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.	Cortiva Institute 390 Interlocken Crescent, Suite 350 <b>Broomfield</b>
Friday, September 21 10:00 a.m. until Noon	Colorado School of Healing Arts 7655 W. Mississippi Avenue, Suite 100 <b>Lakewood</b>

The Colorado Chapter of the American Massage Therapy Association is a member of CCMT. For more information, contact Kathryn Stewart, AMTA-CO Government Relations Chair at 303-425-7298 or [vimarsha@aol.com](mailto:vimarsha@aol.com).

For more information on CCMT, visit [www.ccmbt.org](http://www.ccmbt.org).

#### **About AMTA**

The Colorado Chapter of the American Massage Therapy Association has more than 1,300 members throughout Colorado. The chapter is dedicated to furthering the professionalism of the massage therapy field and educating consumers on the benefits and use of massage in maintaining active and healthy lifestyles.

The American Massage Therapy Association is a non-profit, professional association with more than 56,000 members throughout the United States and in some 27 other countries. The Association is directed by volunteer leadership chosen through its national election and fosters ongoing, direct-member-involvement through its 51 chapters.

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