

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:

11  
 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.

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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.