



Nevada Chapter of the American Massage Therapy Association, Board of Directors

June 6, 2023

Nevada Governor Joe Lombardo

State Capitol Building

101 N. Carson Street

Carson City, NV 89701

RE: SB 161

Dear Governor Lombardo,

The AMTA Nevada Chapter was established in 1999 and currently serves over 1,100 AMTA Members who live and/or practice in Nevada. In our 80th Year as a nationally-recognized Professional Association, the AMTA has served as a stakeholder in and in the development of an interstate compact for massage therapy professionals, IMpact, and the Nevada Chapter's members are very interested in seeing where a multistate license to practice Massage Therapy in Member-States will take them and their clients.

AMTA fully supports and advocates for the rights of massage therapists to freely move from state-to-state without excessive administrative and financial burdens for which we believe the concept of an interstate compact is long overdue for the massage therapy profession. And although AMTA has concerns regarding some of the language in IMpact, specifically but not limited to, setting the bar for education at 625 hours when that number is inconsistent with how states are currently regulated, assurances have been made by both CSG and FSMTB that a pathway for those practicing in states that have fewer than 625 hours as a condition of licensing will be clarified through 'rule' once the Compact Commission is formed and we hope and expect that those assurances will be honored.

The AMTA Nevada Chapter Board of Directors, at the request of the chapter's Government Relations Committee, facilitated a member Survey to inform the Board of Directors, and subsequently publish for all members and the Public, of the chapter members' aggregate Position on IMpact and how the proposed, optional multistate license to practice Massage Therapy may affect Nevada Massage Therapists.

- In preparation for any position that an individual member may come to hold regarding IMpact, the Committee has also published Government Relations Committee-Updates via email to its

members since the beginning of 2022, around the time the Council of State Governments hosted live, video-conference presentations and were taking Public Comment on the development of IMpact.

- Immediately-prior to the opening of the member-only Survey, the Government Relations Committee also hosted & presented a member-only video-conference meeting to explain in detail what IMpact may mean for its members who are also Nevada-licensed Massage Therapists and answer Attendees' questions.
- Attached to this letter are the precise Survey Questions, how each Question was Answered by our chapter members, and every text-Comment that was entered into the Survey over the 7 days it was Open. We had 36 Survey Respondents in total.

In the context of the Survey, *the AMTA Nevada Chapter Members overwhelmingly Support the forward movement of IMpact for Licensed Massage Therapists and Massage Therapy Clients in Nevada, contained in the current version of SB 161.*

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Sincerely,



Elizabeth Benion, Chapter President
American Massage Therapy Association, Nevada Chapter

Attachment



Member-Only Survey, re: IMpact | Open: 3/3/23 at 12:04am; Closed: 3/9/23 at 11:59pm
1 email-Invitation, 1 email-Invitation Reminder: Sent, via Constant Contact

Hello, AMTA-Nevada Chapter Member!

If you've

- heard of **IMpact**,
- read **the final. Legislation-ready Compact**,
- watched or participated in **the CSG's informational-video**, and/or
- attended **the Nevada Chapter's IMpact Primer online-meeting** ...

you are well-prepared to take this Chapter Member Survey!

If you have no idea what we're talking about here:

1. Please review one or more of the above links, then
2. Take this Survey!

This Survey will be Open through 3/9/2023 (Closes @ 12am on 3/10/2023)

This Survey is important because the Nevada Chapter intends to include your thoughtful Answers and Comments in a Letter to the Nevada State Board of Massage Therapy during Public Comment on March 22nd - your voice matters!

- To the chapter, your Answers are identifiable by your AMTA Member Email Address (how you got the invitation to participate at Constant Contact): this is a Member-Only Survey. Your Answers will not be personally-identifiable when we draft and submit the Letter to the NSBMT during Public Comment - we represent ALL our members, in aggregate.
- If you'd like to be personally-identified with your Answers/Comments, please draft and submit (during the Public Comment Item) your own letter to the NSBMT, prior to or on the date of their next Regular Meeting - Executive Director Sandy Anderson is always open to receiving and passing on Public Comment to her Board Members: sjanderson@lmt.nv.gov.

Thank You for taking the time to register your Survey-Answers, thoughts, and opinions with the AMTA-Nevada Chapter.

Your Position and Thoughts on a multistate license *to practice Massage Therapy

*** What is your Position on Nevada Enacting legislation that allows qualified-NVMTs to apply for & hold a multistate license, through IMpact? (*required)(36 Answered)**

- I SUPPORT IMpact in Nevada
- I OPPOSE IMpact in Nevada
- I CANNOT ANSWER this Question

Are you CURRENTLY in a position to make use of a multistate license? (36 Answered)

- Yes
- No
- I Don't Know

Do you see yourself making use of a multistate license IN THE FUTURE? (36 Answered)

- Yes
- No
- I Don't Know

Up to how much money would you pay, annually, for a multistate license to practice massage therapy? (34 Answered)

- \$50
- \$75
- \$100
- \$200
- \$500

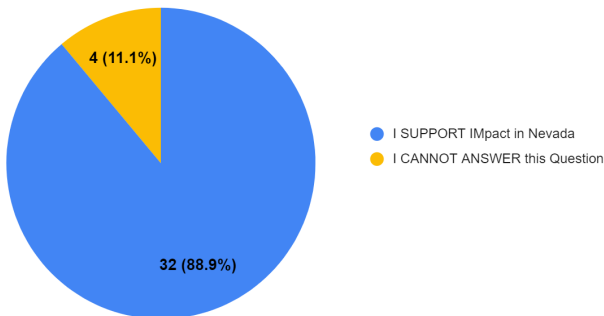
Additional Comments:
[text-box, up to 500 characters]

Submit Survey

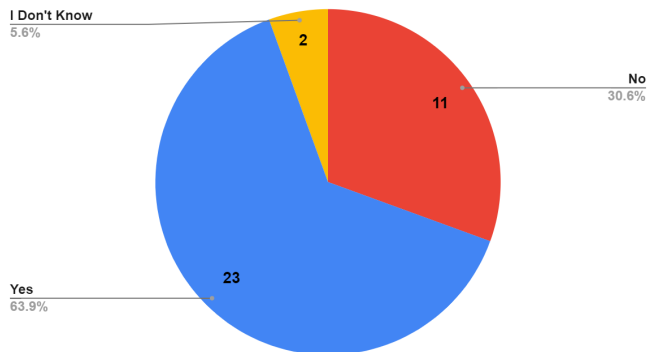
Results, as of Closing 3/9/23, 11:59pm

1. What is your Position on Nevada Enacting legislation that allows qualified-NVMTs to apply for & hold a multistate license, through IMPact?

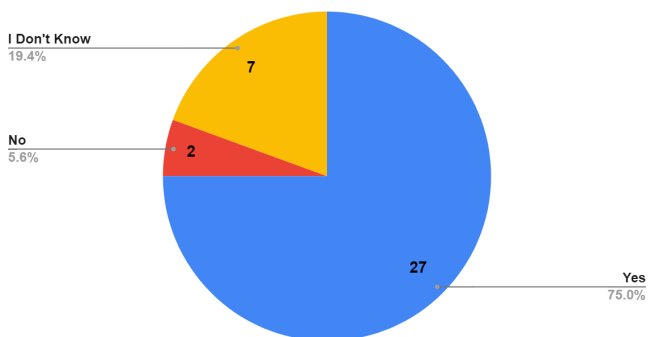
NOTES: Response #2, "I OPPOSE IMPact in Nevada", recorded zero (0) Responses



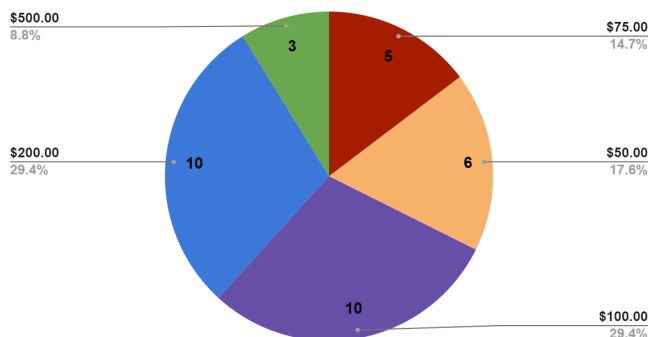
2. Are you CURRENTLY in a position to make use of a multistate license?



3. Do you see yourself making use of a multistate license IN THE FUTURE?



4. Up to how much money would you pay, annually, for a multistate license to practice massage therapy?



5. Additional Comments (open text-box)

<p>IMpact is a great option for the massage therapy profession and its clients.</p>
<p>We have a responsibility to uphold the integrity of the profession. One of the ways is to have somewhat of a stringent background check, waiting period and fee.</p>
<p>Nevada's scope of practice is different than other states... I am curious how this information will be communicated to the therapists using Nevada as a 'remote' state. For example: cupping is in Nevada's SOP but FIRE cupping is specifically not. How are visiting therapists going to know this and our other differences? Sure, we can say "it is up to them to be educated on the states' rules" but that could lead to client injury or complaints.</p>
<p>I think this is something that would benefit many therapists. I have been practicing since 2000 and have had many requests to travel to do massage, but can't due to restrictions with licensing.</p>
<p>Nevada is quite cost prohibitive on licensure expenses when you tally the secretary of state, municipal and NSBMT fees, it can run upwards of \$500/year currently to just have minimum licensure, if it costs \$500 to hold a multi-state license it will inhibit many LMT's from participating due to the expense.</p>
<p>Be careful what you ask for. I thought you were trying to expand reciprocity for other state LMTs. This proposal instead layers on another level of - potentially - heavy-handed multi-state bureaucracy, hoops, and costs than the more typical state-to-state reciprocity model. That may not be a good thing. This might be good for an LMT spouse of a service member who is often moved around. But, for me, I still would have to try to get a 1993 transcript from a school that now may be out of business.</p>
<p>I am very excited for IMpact to be implemented, as I have the opportunity to visit my home state of Illinois and participate in events!</p>
<p>I hold licenses in multiple states already, this is a dream come true!</p>
<p>I support the OPTION to participate in a multistate license, as long as it remains optional. While I don't see myself participating in multistate licensure, I support a system that will facilitate those who do.</p>
<p>This would be really great for LMTs and I really hope to see this pass! Thank you for all you are doing for the MTs in our state!</p>
<p>I think IMpact is a great idea! Not only does it provide continuity of care for clients, IMpact also offers Licensed Massage Therapists the opportunity to work at special events or for limited periods in other states. And I really hope that all states participate in IMpact!!</p>
<p>\$50 seems high. I would want to know what the states have to do to create this multi- license for a therapist. There is no testing etc. just some paperwork I imagine.</p> <p>I also want to know if this impact allows people to move to another state without having to go back to massage school. I have been a full time successful manual therapist for 37 years with easily 5,000 hours of continuing education. I feel trapped due to my vocation.</p>
<p>I think this is a great idea and a great way for MTs to maximize their career.</p>