

Dear Legislators,

My name is Elaine Correia. Besides being an Oregon Licenced Massage Therapist, I am also a Reiki, energy practitioner, and life coach. I live in Waldport, Oregon.

It has come to my attention that there is a discussion about whether to regulate alternative practitioners, including Reiki, energy workers, coaches, and more. While I understand the desire to protect the consumer with a regulatory board, these alternative care practitioners do not engage in medical or mental health diagnosis or counseling, which are regulated by other state boards. As someone already regulated by the Massage Board, another regulatory board would be overkill.

The alternative practitioners I know and have encountered have extensively studied their art and continue to educate themselves. And as business owners, they understand customer service and refer to a professional health care provider if something is out of their scope of education. They self-regulate effectively and don't need more oversight.

In this time of the Covid crisis, small businesses and self-employed practitioners are struggling just to survive and be available to those who benefit from our services. Please do not add another layer of bureaucracy and restriction on this group of caregivers.

Thank you,

Elaine Correia, Waldport, Oregon)