

Submitter:	Kiersten Carroll
On Behalf Of:	Art Therapy
Committee:	Senate Committee On Health Care
Measure, Appointment or Topic:	HB3761

My name is Kiersten Carroll, and I'm writing to express my strong support for the recognition and practice of qualified art therapists in our communities. Art therapy is a clinically proven, evidence-based mental health profession that combines the creative process with psychological theory to improve and enhance the physical, mental, and emotional well-being of individuals of all ages.

Qualified art therapists are master's-level clinicians who have undergone rigorous education and supervised training. They are equipped not only in art-making techniques but also in mental health assessment, treatment planning, and therapeutic intervention. They are held to high ethical and professional standards and are often board-certified and/or licensed depending on their state's regulations.

Allowing these professionals to practice is not just important—it's essential. In a time when mental health needs are surging across all demographics, especially among youth, veterans, trauma survivors, and individuals with chronic illness or disabilities, we must ensure that every evidence-based tool is available. Art therapy is often uniquely effective for people who struggle to express themselves through words—providing a safe, accessible pathway to healing through creativity.