

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
SPRINGFIELD, 62706GEORGE H. RYAN  
GOVERNOR

August 21, 2002

To the Honorable Members of the  
Illinois House of Representatives  
92nd General Assembly

Pursuant to the authority vested in the Governor by Article IV, Section 9(e) of the Illinois Constitution of 1970, and re-affirmed by the People of the State of Illinois by popular referendum in 1974, and conforming to the standard articulated by the Illinois Supreme Court in People ex Rel. Klinger v. Howlett, 50 Ill. 2d 242 (1972), Continental Illinois National Bank and Trust Co. v. Zagel, 78 Ill. 2d 387 (1979), People ex Rel. City of Canton v. Crouch, 79 Ill. 2d 356 (1980), and County of Kane v. Carlson, 116 Ill. 2d 186 (1987), that gubernatorial action be consistent with the fundamental purposes and the intent of the bill, I hereby return House Bill 2271 entitled "AN ACT concerning regulation of professions," with my specific recommendations for change.

House Bill 2271 would protect the public in a variety of ways by setting standards of qualifications, education, training and experience for individuals who would like to practice massage therapy in Illinois. This is a worthwhile goal and one that I fully support.

In order for the new regulations of this profession to be both effective and efficient, the same rules should apply throughout the state. The City of Chicago currently regulates massage establishments and massage services. A concern has been raised that given the effective date of this bill, and other references in the bill to when individuals must be licensed by the state Department of Professional Regulation, there could be a period of time when these individuals would not be licensed.

This bill would not prevent the City of Chicago from continuing to regulate massage establishments. In the case of the actual individuals, a single statewide standard is the right public policy, and in order to ensure that there are no gaps in regulatory coverage, I am making the following recommendations for change:

On page 13, line 13, by replacing "The" with "Beginning January 1, 2004, the"; and

On page 13, line 15, by replacing "A" with "Beginning January 1, 2004, a".

With these changes, House Bill 2271 will have my approval. I respectfully request your concurrence.

Sincerely,  
s/GEORGE H. RYAN  
Governor