



To: House Committee on Health and Human Services

From: Michael Koss, League of Kansas Municipalities

Date: February 12, 2013

RE: HB 2187

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Thank you for allowing the League of Kansas Municipalities to testify on HB 2187. We have no position on whether the State should license massage therapists. However, because Section 12 of the bill preempts city regulations on such activity, we oppose that Section.

Cities in Kansas that currently regulate massage therapists should be able to continue to do so in conjunction with the State. Dual regulation systems are common and effective. Tattoo parlors are one example of where city ordinances are allowed to operate parallel with state rules. Local regulations were not prohibited from that industry because they are more efficient and complement state law by reflecting the community's values. We propose a similar regulatory regime for massage therapists.

In conclusion, we suggest removing the Section 12 of HB 2187, which preempts local massage therapist licensure requirements.