

**(Name)**  
**(Street address)**  
**(City, state, zip)**

**(Date)**

**Honorable (Representative or Senator-insert client's or pet owner's legislator name),**

**My name is (insert name) and I am a (dog/cat/horse) owner in your district.** I am writing to ask that you support adoption of specific fee authority for the Dept. of Health to implement the licensure of animal massage practitioners. As an animal owner, I recognize the benefits that massage provides to the health and well-being of animals and I wish to have access to this service. The adoption of fees that the Department of Health needs to provide licensure to non-veterinarian practitioners would not impact taxpayers or the state budget as the practitioners themselves would be paying the fees in order to obtain licensure.

In 2007, SB5403 was passed allowing individuals with 300 hours of accredited training in animal massage to practice as animal massage practitioners. However, the adoption of fees has yet to be approved due to complications surrounding Initiative 960.

For the past three years, qualified practitioners with the required training have been unable to apply for their license and consequently I have not been able to procure their services for my animals.

I ask that you contact key members of the Ways and Means committee and request that this authority be provided to the Dept. of Health in the 2009-11 supplemental budget.

**(Closing –personalizing is best. Mention of how the fee approval will help you.)**

**(Example of closing:**

**Because animal massage has benefited by animals, I would like to see more animal massage practitioners practicing in Washington State. Speaking as a (pet/horse/animal) owner, taxpayer and a voter, I request that you approve adoption of the fees necessary to implement this licensure program.)**

**Thank you for your consideration and for your service to this great State of Washington.**

**Best regards,**  
**(Insert name)**