



THE STATE  
of **ALASKA**  
GOVERNOR MICHAEL J. DUNLEAVY

Department of Commerce, Community,  
and Economic Development

BOARD OF MASSAGE THERAPISTS

P.O. Box 110806  
Juneau, AK 99811-0806  
Main: 907.465.3811  
Toll free fax: 907.465.2974

January 22, 2019

Board Position Statement on Alaska Massage Therapists and CBD Oil

In the December 2018 teleconference meeting, the Board of Massage Therapists sought clarification on the legality of CBD oil in response to question we received from the public and licensees. We learned that CBD oil is not officially legal until the regulatory framework established by last year's Industrial Hemp bill is completed by the Department of Natural Resources.

The board understands that CBD is currently readily available and is potentially being used in conjunction with massage therapy. The board does not intend to prioritize complaint cases of licensed massage therapists' use of lotions or oils unless a significant impact to life, health, and safety- such as a severe allergic or psychotropic reaction- has been demonstrated. CBD oil complaint cases are seen by this board as a poor use of division resources and licensing fees. There are higher priorities of public safety including the problems of sex trafficking and prostitution that plague the massage profession. We do advise caution until the regulatory process is in place and advise licensees and clients to read the alert issued by the Alaska Department of Law prior to the use of CBD oil:

[http://law.alaska.gov/press/consumer\\_alerts/2018/1118-CBDoil.html](http://law.alaska.gov/press/consumer_alerts/2018/1118-CBDoil.html)

If and when a complaint is filed regarding the use of illegal lotions or oils, the board is obligated to uphold the regulation including in the Standards of Practice requiring licensees to obey all applicable local, state, and federal laws when pertaining to massage therapy.

David Edwards-Smith  
Chair  
Alaska Board of Massage Therapists