



August 31, 2014

To: The Honorable Jerry Brown  
**Governor of California**  
State Capitol Building  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: AB 1147 (Bonilla, Gomez, Holden) Massage Therapy (as amended on August 22, 2014)  
Request for Signature

Dear Governor Brown,

I am writing on behalf of WISPPA, a women's political advocacy group that strongly supports AB1147, which would completely revise and recast the law pertaining to massage therapy, including returning land use control back to the cities.

Our women's organization has been working with our legislators and the California League of Cities to correct the problems created by SB731 for over 3 years. We have not only worked on behalf of our City, South Pasadena, which went from 7 massage parlors to 19 with at least 6 known to engage in prostitution, but also for the women whom have been forced into a life of prostitution right on our main streets throughout our state.

SB 731 was unprecedented in that it took cities rights away to regulate a business use. All other uses are subject to local regulations and land use laws, so we see no justifiable reason that massage parlors were allowed to receive such an exceptional exemption.

AB1147 will allow cities to have their rights back to regulate massage parlors as they do other uses. It will allow local governments to enact ordinances that would require massage establishments to obtain a license, permit or other authorization. Having this authority returned will allow local governments to shut down houses of prostitution masquerading as legitimate massage businesses. Shutting down the illicit businesses will also serve to help the legitimate massage industry which has been tarnished by the terrible consequences of the existing law.

For these reasons, WISPPA (Women Involved in South Pasadena Political Action) strongly supports AB 1147 and respectfully ask you to do the same by signing this bill into law.

Sincerely,

Lisa Pendleton, Secretary  
Women Involved In South Pasadena Political Action  
[www.wisppa.org](http://www.wisppa.org)