

Recommendation for House of Delegates Session during National Convention 2014

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Name of Author(s): Stacey DeGooyer

Contact information of Author(s): staceydegooyer@gmail.com, 415.479.7652 (cell)
300 Galland Street, Petaluma, CA 94952

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Subject: Recommendation for House of Delegates 2014 - Chapter Fee

Whereas, the American Massage Therapy Association (AMTA) distinguishes itself by being a member-driven, non-profit professional association with a *centralized* National Office run by Staff and Elected and Appointed Member Volunteers supporting *localized* Chapters, where Volunteers provide *grassroots* regulation advocacy, educational opportunities, and community building;

Whereas, AMTA is committed to providing leading-edge products, programs, and services to its members. Chapter-organized activities generate the person-to-person connectivity that is AMTA's competitive advantage as a professional association;

Whereas, every member of a Chapter has the opportunity to receive the benefits and value of:

- Regulatory advocacy
 - Lobbyist funding
 - Legislative Day at the Capitol
 - Outreach to elected officials
- Professional Development
 - Education conference/convention
 - Leadership development
 - Officers trainings
- Local events
 - Continuing education classes
 - Social gatherings
 - Networking with other massage therapists
 - National Massage Therapy Awareness Week Outreach
 - Demonstration events in local communities
 - Mayoral/Gubernatorial Proclamations and Legislative Resolutions
- Participation
 - Vote in the annual Business Meeting
 - Apply for and be elected to leadership positions
 - Fulfill appointee responsibilities
 - Attend local events

- Relationship building
 - Developing relationships with other exceptional massage therapists
 - Building bridges with other healthcare organizations (e.g., The Phoenix Society's World Burn Congress, Avon's Cancer walk, etc);

Whereas, when *every member* helps fund the local Chapter, a Chapter has the optimal financial resources needed to provide leading-edge products, programs, and services to our members and AMTA can continue to be the leader of the profession;

Whereas, when an AMTA member contributes a Chapter Fee, then that member should have the right to vote on matters of that particular Chapter;

Therefore, be it resolved that the House of Delegates recommends to the National Board of Directors that *each Chapter* may determine the amount of its Chapter Fee and how to request/acquire said Chapter Fee via

- mandatory assessment
- opt-out contribution
- opt-in contribution or
- as unnecessary.