

March 8

Moore-Love, Karla

From: Mira Luna <miramiraluna@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 22, 2017 2:09 PM
To: Moore-Love, Karla; Commissioner Eudaly; Birge, Pollyanne
Subject: How do I get an item on the agenda regarding sex crime policy?

Dear Portland City Council,

I would like to bring an item for consideration to the City Council. I am licensed massage therapist in Portland and I am constantly being sexually harassed by my clients. I do clinical massage and rolfing. I have had to call the cops twice this year, when I was nearly sexually assaulted but was able to get away. I am now thinking of leaving massage because of the intense sexual harassment and fear of being sexually assaulted. When I have called the cops, they say there is not much they can do. One incident, the cops acted very suspicious like I was a prostitute. The other, they said that they could try to charge him with private indecency but not sure how well that would go. We need a law on the books that protects massage therapists. The only laws I know of are actually for massage therapists sexually assaulting clients, which is actually relatively rare. I believe that this behavior is tantamount to solicitation of prostitution, only it is nonconsensual. That is, most massage therapists are not sex workers. Because there is no law on the books for this, it is very unreported based on talking with other massage therapists as we know charges will go nowhere. I also have heard that some massage therapists go along with it out of fear and yet may lose their license for this. Portland is by far the worst city I have worked in regarding this behavior. I worked for many years in the greater Bay Area and Kansas. I never had this level of sexual harassment and never had to call the cops. Something must be done.

Sincerely,
Heather Young
Owner and LMT, Centered Bodywork

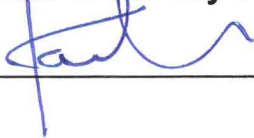
Request of Heather Young to address Council regarding sexual harassment and the need for a sex crime policy for massage therapists (Communication)

MAR 08 2017

PLACED ON FILE

Filed FEB 28 2017

MARY HULL CABALLERO
Auditor of the City of Portland

By  Deputy

COMMISSIONERS VOTED AS FOLLOWS:		
	YEAS	NAYS
1. Fritz		
2. Fish		
3. Saltzman		
4. Eudaly		
Wheeler		