

To the Committee Members

Thank you for your time today. My name is Ashley Johnson I am the Sec. Treasurer for the ND State Board of Barber Examiners and have been a licensed barber in North Dakota for 16 years. I am here to Discuss HB 1112. This bill was drafted to update three of our Barber century codes. The first century code we looked at updating deals with exempt individuals advertising they are a Barber or own a Barbershop without meeting the state criteria to do so. The second one we are asking to use more funds to help pay for our continuing education program that we offer to the licensed barbers in the state. The third is to try and use the language that other boards use in our hearing proceedings to bring it more up to date.

The first item deals with “exempt individuals advertising as barbers or barbershop owners without proper certification”. The individuals listed are “doctors, nurses, medical professionals and cosmetologists”. They are allowed to do a barber service, but they are not allowed to call themselves a barber. In their profession they might need to trim a beard or cut someone’s hair but that does not mean they have met the criteria to call themselves a barber as they do it. Generally that is not an issue, not a lot of doctors are claiming to be Barbers. However, some cosmetologists are advertising they are a barber. We are simply trying to protect our trade name. In order to receive a barber license an individual must complete a Barber college program approved by the ND State Barber Board, pass our state barber exam, and pay the fees. Furthermore, there is not a cosmetology college in North Dakota that is approved by the board to offer a barber training program. The same applies to listing a salon as a barbershop. Unless you employ a licensed barber, you cannot operate or call yourself barbershop.

The second item we want to change is simpler we want to use more of our funds we receive from our licensing fees to put towards our continuing education program. We want to be able to give our barbers in the state the best possible program. We are asking to bring it from five dollars per license to a minimum of ten dollars per license.

The third item deals with our hearing procedures. It was brought to our attention that century code 28-32-21 is a code that is used when dealing with license holders. We hoped to add it to our language to help with hearing proceedings.

Thank you for your time I would be happy to answer any questions you may have.