

Dear Chairman, Senators, and Committee Members,

My name is Alisha Schaeffer and I am currently the Director of Operations for Josef's School of Hair, Skin & Body in Fargo and Grand Forks. I also have been a licensed Instructor working at Josef's for 15 years as well at the Paul Mitchell Academy in Little Rock Arkansas. I have seen hundreds of students graduate and become licensed professionals in this state. Licensed professionals who have gone through the proper training that it takes to be able to not only accommodate a client's wants but also can deliver it in a safe and sanitary manner. There is much more to providing services than just the service itself.

The deregulation of HB1426 is risky and unfitting for our clients in this state because it permits an unlicensed individual to perform services that could potentially be dangerous, unsanitary for not only the client, but the person performing the services as well. Our current education that is provided in this state is set with certain standards that allows a licensed individual to be able to manage situations that can occur with services being provided. No matter if it is hairstyling, there is much more behind it.

What chemicals are currently on the hair? What products does the client use? Any allergies or contraindications? How does the deregulated services get proper consultations? How do you not know that deregulating these services will not open the door for regulated services to be performed without you knowing? For instance, Hair Extensions require the hair to be cut for the style the client is wanting. How do we not know that won't happen?

The deregulation proposed in HB1426 is a disaster waiting to happen. A 4 hours sanitation course does NOT allow enough proper education for someone to perform these services. Our hair and skin professionals in this state have done the time it takes to be professional and successful. The standards set by the board has proven to work over the years and has allowed this industry to be a very productive one. They are able to not only provide the services, but can execute them in a safe and professional manner.

This is an industry that has required a license for a reason. Safety, sanitation and a knowledge of the science behind hair and skin is a MUST. The services being provided needs to be regulated, and the places that are providing these services MUST be inspected. Anything less is simply negligent to the people needing/wanting these services in our state. We have to continue to uphold our integrity not only to this profession but all the current licensed professionals and what we have always stood for.

Education and safety are truly so important when working with our clients so If we lose sight on that then we might as well say the beauty industry is done for. Please do NOT allow any of these deregulations to happen in our state.

Thank you,
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