

2011 HOUSE INDUSTRY, BUSINESS AND LABOR

HB 1063

2011 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

House Industry, Business and Labor Committee
Peace Garden Room, State Capitol

HB 1063
January 11, 2011
12726

☐ Conference Committee

Committee Clerk Signature



Explanation or reason for introduction of bill/resolution:
Barber licensing fees.

Minutes:

Representative Frantsvog, Co-Sponsor: About a year ago, Tona Stevenson who is president of the State Barber organization contacted me about barbers' rules and regulations. The process for updating has been completed. The only thing that remains is to update their fees for belonging to the organization.

Representative Klein, Co-Sponsor: Please take a look at this bill. I think it has a lot of merit.

Tona Stevenson~President of the Board of Barber Examiners: (See attached testimony).

Representative M Nelson: How much money are you bringing in now and what do you think the increase will be?

Paul Ellerkamp~Secretary-Treasurer of ND Barber Board: For the year 2010, we brought in \$21,283.71. Our expenses for the year were \$15,831.07. That gives us a net profit of \$5,452.64. Trying to be good stewards of the money we have cut back quite a bit on things necessary to do our job diligently. With \$5,000 left over, it does not give us a good cushion. If we were to do our jobs properly, we would probably be \$7,000 in the hole.

Representative Ruby: What is the number of licenses that you have now compared to what you had in 1997?

Paul Ellerkamp: The total number of licenses this year was 252. That includes master barbers and apprentice barbers. For 1997 I do not have that information but I can guarantee you that it is quite a bit more.

Representative Nathe: As far as the inspections, are they mandated?

Paul Ellerkamp: Yes, we are supposed to inspect every shop every year.

Representative Nathe: Who conducts those inspections? Board members or somebody outside the board?

Paul Ellerkamp: We have three board members. We try to split up the state evenly as possible.

Representative Nathe: These additional revenues would help offset your expenses?

Paul Ellerkamp: That is correct. We don't just go out once a year and take one day out of our time. It actually takes about 10-15 days.

Representative Sukut: Have you canvassed your membership and their feelings?

Paul Ellerkamp: We proposed our increase fees to our ND Barber Assn. last April. We received unanimous approval from our association.

Chairman Keiser: When you say you polled the association is that all 252 people? Or is that your board?

Paul Ellerkamp: Every licensed barber in North Dakota is a member of the association by buying the license. When we hold our annual meeting, we usually get about an 80% attendance rate.

Chairman Keiser: So 80% have supported this.

Paul Ellerkamp: Yes. We also send out a news letter stating what went on in the meeting. So every barber is informed and had the opportunity to contact us to voice their opinion.

Representative Nathe: How much money do you think you will raise?

Paul Ellerkamp: \$11,000 annually.

Representative Vigesaa: Hairdressers are not part of this action or can a hairdresser become a member of the barbers' association if they choose?

Paul Ellerkamp: As of now we are separate entities.

Chairman Keiser: You are requesting about 100% increase in many of these categories. I can assure when this goes on the floor someone will stand up and say this 100% increase in fee makes no sense. Explain why we need to do this. What is the crisis to raise this fee?

Paul Ellerkamp: The reason, we are looking at the fees with surrounding states and we are not keeping up with the times. A master license in Minnesota is \$120. In Montana and Wyoming, they are charging \$200-250 for a master license. We need the money. Not only to keep our operational budget going but for people that are going to be after us. Just to come here, after I get my stipend from the board I will probably lose \$200 a day just to be

here. I take this job because I want to improve the barber industry in North Dakota. To get other people on the board we need provide them something comparable to what they are earning in their barbershop. We need to have our shops inspected every year. That is priority #1. Updating our continuing education is also high on the priority list. We have cut back on continuing education like not bringing in guest artists. They cost from \$2,000-5,000 to do that for our convention. We need to update technology. Our filing system is all paper.

Tona Stevenson: I'd like to add, we went through our antiqued rules and regulations. Then we printed out another set of books to distribute. I felt it was so important to update those because as we go out on shop inspections, if there is a violation they always say we didn't know. Now that the rules are complete, I want to be able to enforce these laws the way they should be. If we go further with court action, we need funding which we don't have now. We wouldn't be able to enforce the laws the way we need to.

Representative Amerman: On Line 21, item I, "applicant who qualifies under this section." Can you tell me what that section is that they would qualify?

Tona Stevenson: That refers to our reciprocity. When a barber comes in from another state, if they meet all our requirements they can just pay the reciprocity fee instead of going through all the testing with us to receive their North Dakota license.

Representative Amerman: On the second page, item K, "renewal instructor's license, \$25." I was looking and I don't see what the price tag is for an instructor license in the first place.

Tona Stevenson: Our instructors are licensed barbers so our instructor in Fargo at Moler Barber College already pays for her yearly master barber license.

Representative M Nelson: Being a master barber qualifies you to be an instructor?

Tona Stevenson: Yes. But you do have to have five years of continued work in the State of North Dakota carrying a master barber license before you can get an instructor's license and that as well requires a separate test.

Representative Boe: We heard that the membership has dropped off since 1997. What is the percentage of dropped membership?

Tona Stevenson: Yes. Our numbers have decreased over the years. After WWII we had a large number of barbers come in to North Dakota. Our Barber School in Fargo was filled to the max with 30 people at all times. Over the years, that has continually decreased as those barbers have retired. It is getting better. For the first time in 20 years we now have a waiting list in our Barber School in Fargo. We can only hold 13 at a time because we only have one instructor. As far as percentage it is hard to say. Maybe 30% less.

Chairman Keiser: Just to review, this additional \$11,000 that you're projecting, what amount is used to accommodate inspecting every facility annually. Is the balance going

into the guest presenter and is there also a surplus that you hope to build which you have no surplus now?

Paul Ellerkamp: We do have balance in a CD of \$10,000? That is our emergency fund. Our priority is to inspect shops and then bring in guest artists. We are looking at a five-year goal of the five bullet points.

Representative Sukut: A lot of men are getting their haircut at beauty salons. Are any of those people a part of your organization?

Tona Stevenson: We are completely separate from the Beauty Board. They are a different license.

Chairman Keiser: Others in support, opposition, neutral?
Closed the hearing. Wishes of the committee?

Representative Frantsvog: Moved a **Do Pass**.

Representative Boe: Seconded the motion.

Chairman Keiser: Further discussion? It is highly unusual to take to the floor a request of such a large increase in fees. The only consolation is they have done a good job of polling the membership and they support it. We need to defend the need clearly and concisely.

A Roll Call Vote was taken on **Do Pass** on HB 1063.

Motion carried with **14 yes** and **0 no, 0 absent**.

Representative M. Nelson is the carrier.

FISCAL NOTE

Requested by Legislative Council
12/27/2010

REVISION

Bill/Resolution No.: HB 1063

1A. **State fiscal effect:** *Identify the state fiscal effect and the fiscal effect on agency appropriations compared to funding levels and appropriations anticipated under current law.*

	2009-2011 Biennium		2011-2013 Biennium		2013-2015 Biennium	
	General Fund	Other Funds	General Fund	Other Funds	General Fund	Other Funds
Revenues				\$14,425		
Expenditures						
Appropriations						

1B. **County, city, and school district fiscal effect:** *Identify the fiscal effect on the appropriate political subdivision.*

2009-2011 Biennium			2011-2013 Biennium			2013-2015 Biennium		
Counties	Cities	School Districts	Counties	Cities	School Districts	Counties	Cities	School Districts

2A. **Bill and fiscal impact summary:** *Provide a brief summary of the measure, including description of the provisions having fiscal impact (limited to 300 characters).*

B. **Fiscal impact sections:** *Identify and provide a brief description of the sections of the measure which have fiscal impact. Include any assumptions and comments relevant to the analysis.*

There is no effect on state revenues or expenditures. The fiscal impact is for additional revenue for the North Dakota Board of Barber Examiners to provide supervision of the practice of barbering to protect the public health welfare and safety.

3. **State fiscal effect detail:** *For information shown under state fiscal effect in 1A, please:*

A. **Revenues:** *Explain the revenue amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, for each revenue type and fund affected and any amounts included in the executive budget.*

B. **Expenditures:** *Explain the expenditure amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, for each agency, line item, and fund affected and the number of FTE positions affected.*

C. **Appropriations:** *Explain the appropriation amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, for each agency and fund affected. Explain the relationship between the amounts shown for expenditures and appropriations. Indicate whether the appropriation is also included in the executive budget or relates to a continuing appropriation.*

Name:	Tona Stevenson	Agency:	North Dakota State Board of Barber examiners
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Phone Number: (701) 838-4459

Date Prepared: 12/23/2010

FISCAL NOTE

Requested by Legislative Council
12/22/2010

Bill/Resolution No.: HB 1063

1A. **State fiscal effect:** *Identify the state fiscal effect and the fiscal effect on agency appropriations compared to funding levels and appropriations anticipated under current law.*

	2009-2011 Biennium		2011-2013 Biennium		2013-2015 Biennium	
	General Fund	Other Funds	General Fund	Other Funds	General Fund	Other Funds
Revenues		\$14,425				
Expenditures						
Appropriations						

1B. **County, city, and school district fiscal effect:** *Identify the fiscal effect on the appropriate political subdivision.*

2009-2011 Biennium			2011-2013 Biennium			2013-2015 Biennium		
Counties	Cities	School Districts	Counties	Cities	School Districts	Counties	Cities	School Districts

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Name:	Tona Stevenson	Agency:	North Dakota State Board of Barber examiners
Phone Number:	(701) 838-4459	Date Prepared:	12/23/2010

Date: 1-11-2011

Roll Call Vote # 1

2011 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 1063

House House Industry, Business and Labor Committee

☐ Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number _____

Action Taken: ☒ Do Pass ☐ Do Not Pass ☐ Amended ☐ Adopt Amendment

Motion Made By Frantsvog Seconded By Rep Boe

Representatives	Yes	No	Representatives	Yes	No
Chairman Keiser	✓		Representative Amerman	✓	
Vice Chairman Kasper	✓		Representative Boe	✓	
Representative Clark	✓		Representative Gruchalla	✓	
Representative Frantsvog	✓		Representative M Nelson	✓	
Representative N Johnson	✓				
Representative Kreun	✓				
Representative Nathe	✓				
Representative Ruby	✓				
Representative Sukut	✓				
Representative Vigesaa	✓				

Total Yes 14 No 0

Absent 0

Floor Assignment Rep. M Nelson

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

HB 1063: Industry, Business and Labor Committee (Rep. Keiser, Chairman)
recommends **DO PASS** (14 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING).
HB 1063 was placed on the Eleventh order on the calendar.

2011 SENATE INDUSTRY, BUSINESS AND LABOR

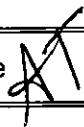
HB 1063

2011 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Senate Industry, Business and Labor Committee
Roosevelt Park Room, State Capitol

HB 1063
February 7, 2011
Job Number 14071

☐ Conference Committee

Committee Clerk Signature 

Explanation or reason for introduction of bill/resolution:
Relating to barber licensing fees.

Minutes:

"Attached Testimony"

Senator Klein opens the hearing on HB 1063. This bill has a FN.

Rep. Robert Frantsvog, District 40, Minot introduced HB 1063. He states that approximately 1 yr. ago, the Barber organization, contacted him and indicated they would like to update their rules and regulations, as well as their fees. The organization has worked very hard at trying to maintain an organization, that keeps the barbers that are involved in barbering in ND, inspecting their shops etc.

Tona Stevenson, President of Board of Barber Examiners, supports HB 1063. (Attached Testimony #1).

Senator Klein asks if the yearly increase, increasing from \$35 to \$50, is that correct?

Tona Stevenson states that is for our Master Barber License.

Senator Klein asks, "Let's say, I have received my Master Barber Certificate that costs \$100. I am trying to work my way down the list and understand how much it would cost me to go out and learn how to be a barber? I need a license, I take a test. I am looking at all the fees and trying to figure what my annual fee would be, once I am established?"

Tona Stevenson states once you have finished your schooling, then you take a test, which is called your Apprentice Test. We are not increasing that. They work for one year, as an apprentice, and they come back and take another exam and that is what they are testing for to achieve their Master Barber license. What we are looking to increase is the fee of a Master License. We have gone from \$50 to \$100. This is renewed every year. So it will cost \$100/year. If you own a shop, we are increasing that, as well. That is the Shop Licensing Fee. We are going from \$35 to \$50. Where we generate most of the money we work with, is our Master Barber license renewal and Shop License renewal, every year.

Senator Klein asks about "continuing education?" Is continuing education required amongst the barbers?

Tona Stevenson states that it is required. We have to have 6 hours of continuing education, every 2 years. You can acquire that by going to the State Barber Convention. We have 6 hours of "continuing education" at our convention. We video tape our conventions so that people have the option of renting a video (with a test) from us if they can't attend.

Senator Klein asks "What have I done to qualify under 43-04-38.1? What type of barber am I, to qualify from \$125 to \$175?"

Tona Stevenson states that is what they call "reciprocity". That is, when we have another barber coming from out of state and if they qualify and have the same regulations as we do in ND, they don't have to take a written test or a practical test. They can just purchase our license. There is paperwork involved for us and we have to get papers from the school they attended and employers they worked with.

Senator Klein asks what the difference is between "barbers" and "cosmetologists?"

Tona Stevenson states "barbers" are completely separated from "cosmetologists". Our schools are different, we have different training, and we have different state rules and regulations.

Senator Nodland asks about their shop inspection. What is done?

Tona Stevenson states that shop inspections are done on a yearly basis. We have 3 board members and we all have areas of state, that we are responsible for. When we do a shop inspection, it is unannounced; they do not know when we are coming. We are looking to see if they have a current license, looking at sanitation issues, looking for employees they may have in their shop and are licensed properly.

Senator Nodland asks, "Why the variance in pricing?"

Tona Stevenson states she doesn't know why.

Senator Andrist states that fees are not out of line. Some concern about the convention and licensing fees and if they should be separate issues. You shouldn't have to go to the convention and licensing fees should not subsidize the convention.

Tona Stevenson states that it is not required for barbers to go to the convention. However, we do have a state law requiring continuing education of 6 hrs. every two hours.

Senator Andrist asks, "Could this very done without travel?"

Tona Stevenson states "no". We vary our convention from east to west. You could go to the convention, every other year. You would not have to attend it every year to keep up with continuing education. You can get your 6 hours in one year, at one convention.

Senator Andrist asks, "Would you have to attend the convention biannually?"

Tona Stevenson states, "correct". We video tape the guest artists and the continuing education at our conventions, so you have that option. You have the option of paying for the video, through the State Barber Board, and we send that out along with a test. So you could view the video at home and take the test.

Senator Andrist asks, "So you could keep your license up without traveling?"

Tona Stevenson states "yes, that is correct". There are various hair shows throughout ND that you can attend at any time. It is not required that you come to convention, but most do.

Senator Lafeen states sometimes associations handle the convention. He asks, "Your state board is actually funding the convention and getting paid to come to the conventions?" It appears you are for the financial profit for this convention, is that what the state board is?"

Tona Stevenson states that they work together, with the association, putting on the convention. It is actually, the association, putting the convention on. We (the board) have to be sure we have the continuing education there and responsible for the video taping of the convention. The association puts on the convention and the barbers in the host city.

Senator Lafeen asks that if there was a financial loss at the convention, that risk is the association's risk, correct?"

Tona Stevenson responds, "Correct and the money generated from the convention is held by the Association not the Board". Our job is to provide "continuing education".

Senator Larsen asks, "Has there been a survey, that the price hikes were going to be to all the barbers, and there was no opposition to that?"

Tona Stevenson states that this is something we have worked on, the board, along with the State Association, for two years. We have talked about the price increase that we are going to have to have, in order to keep functioning, as a Board. We have, at the last two conventions; we have our annual association meeting, which all barbers attend. We have a very good turnout of barbers from our state to our state conventions, around 80%. So this is something all the barbers are aware of. They are aware of it by coming to the convention, we have a website, and we have a newsletter that goes out. We have not heard any arguments on this from anyone.

Senator Andrist asks, "Is the issue of the certificate, to the out of state barber, is a onetime fee and then they pay the renewal fee like everyone else?"

Tona Stevenson states that is correct.

Senator Klein states that once that they have paid the fee and you do your due diligence and determine that they were licensed in SD and had reciprocity, they are good and get license. After that, they pay the \$100.

Tona Stevenson states that is correct.

Sharon Tester, Devils Lake, President of the Barber Association, supports HB 2063.

Senator Klein states that it appears everyone is "on board?"

Sharon Tester states that our association is well aware of the need to increase the fees. If it wasn't for the State Examiners, I believe our shops wouldn't be "in the good condition they are". They need to travel, throughout the state and make sure our shops, are up to par, and especially in the sanitation dept. That is very important.

Senator Andrist states that they are self funding, whatever they collect from the fees, is what they spend to inspect the shops.

Sharon Tester states "yes", we are nonprofit association. We have approximately 163 members.

Senator Andrist states that the fee for an "out of state" certificate is \$175. Does that incorporate a year's license?

Sharon Tester states Section I, on HB 1063, that the reciprocity is \$175. They need to pay the \$175 and it covers the license for the year.

Mike Klostreich, a barber for 17 years, in Mandan. He supports HB 1063.

Paul Ellerkamp, Dickinson, barber. He gives financial statement of the Barbers Board Fund. When we inspect shops and we do go to court, we don't have the financial backing to go to court. With fee increases we are asking for, we could generate a little over \$11,000 more, per year. We would like to bring the Barber Board, up to date with technology, and also need provide stipends for the Board members. We need something to help pay our bills when we are gone. It is fair to say, if you own your shop, you probably only get your shop inspected, every other year, due to the time and financial restraint that is put on the Board.

Senator Klein asks, "Do the barbers take turns or do you have someone to do this for you?"

Paul Ellerkamp, states that the 3 Board members, we all have an area of the state that we take care of. Since we all work, it is tough for us to get out. We make the time, on our off time or on weekend, to inspect the shops.

Senator Klein states that there was discussion earlier, that HB 1063, only deals with fee increases. Have you had some other rules that came through, that deal with other things, during the interim?

Paul Ellerkamp states, "Yes, we have". That is a wide variety of things. I believe we brought rules and regulations up to date and excluded some wording that did not pertain to us.

Senator Larsen states that Paul was talking about not having funds for litigation. When you are doing these inspections, do you levy fines, if there is a problem, or indicate they need to clean up their operation?

Paul Ellerkamp states that this is his first year on the Board. I have not run into a situation where I have to say, "clean up your shop" besides a "verbal warning". If there is a problem, we get together (as a Board) and talk about it. I don't believe there are any fines, at this point.

Senator Lafeen asks, "How do you reimburse yourselves for the inspections you do?"

Paul Ellerkamp states that they have a monthly stipend; we can put in, basically an expense report.

No one in opposition of HB 1063.

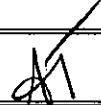
Senator Klein closed hearing on HB 1063.

2011 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Senate Industry, Business and Labor Committee Roosevelt Park Room, State Capitol

SB 1063
February 8, 2011
Job Number 14204

☐ Conference Committee

Committee Clerk Signature 

Explanation or reason for introduction of bill/resolution:

Relating to barber licensing fees.

Minutes:

"No Testimony Attached"

The Senate Industry, Business and Labor Committee discussed HB 1063.

Senator Klein states that they are raising the barber licensing fees. When you raise fees, one is usually uncomfortable, however, most barbers have raised their fees in the last 14 years. I do understand, if they are self regulating and their "pool of cash," is not much. When you are carrying \$14,000 in your account, that is not a lot.

Senator Andrist states that he would like to have in the record that there a lot of our licensing agencies have relationships, in my view, are too cozy with the trade associations, and the barbers are one of them. There are a whole lot of others too, including the Bar Association, which is the most egregious. You can't be a lawyer without belonging to the Bar Association. This is something we need to watch for. We need to keep the separation, quite a bit larger than, exists in the Barber Board.

Senator Nodland states that the other thing is that we are losing barbers and I think of what the future is going to be for that industry. They are just trying to hang on. So I agree with what they are doing.

Senator Lafeen states that he didn't have a problem with the fees, but for future reference, we will have more come along of these. It is appropriate for a State Board to accumulate cash for the potential of a lawsuit? Is it actually the State Board that takes on that?

Senator Klein states some years back, there was a major lawsuit, amongst the podiatrist board and one of the podiatrists took issue with how he was being regulated. We addressed that in 1999-2001 session. It was amongst two of the podiatrists that had been partners and split up and the Board amounted huge legal fees. Then the question was, is the full faith and credit of the state of ND, have to back this board? Since then, every board has looked at that, as a reference point, and Senator Andrist remembers that particular issue. They have concerned themselves with having at least with enough money "to hold themselves whole" if they should have time when this may happen.

Senator Andrist states that the particular issue amounted to nothing more than a grudge between two different podiatrists. All that was created because they didn't like each other and the fact that the licensing board was too small. It was too selective of a group. We have a lot of those licensing agencies too.

Senator Murphy states that he takes great comfort when the pool their own membership and come up with a wish to "keep themselves viable" financially.

Senator Murphy makes a motion for a DO PASS on SB 1063.

It is seconded by **Senator Larsen**.

The carrier is **Senator Murphy**.

Date: 2-8-11
Roll Call Vote # 1

2011 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. SB 1063

Senate Industry, Business and Labor Committee

☐ Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number _____

Action Taken: ☒ Do Pass ☐ Do Not Pass ☐ Amended ☐ Adopt Amendment

☐ Rerefer to Appropriations ☐ Reconsider

Motion Made By Senator Murphy Seconded By Senator Larsen

Senators	Yes	No	Senators	Yes	No
Chairman Jerry Klein	✓		Senator Mac Schneider	✓	
VC George L. Nodland	✓		Senator Philip Murphy	✓	
Senator John Andrist	✓				
Senator Lonnie J. Laffen	✓				
Senator Oley Larsen	✓				

Total (Yes) 7 No 0

Absent 0

Floor Assignment Senator Murphy

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

HB 1063: Industry, Business and Labor Committee (Sen. Klein, Chairman) recommends
DO PASS (7 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). HB 1063 was placed
on the Fourteenth order on the calendar.

2011 TESTIMONY

HB 1063

HB 1063

NORTH DAKOTA BOARD OF BARBER EXAMINERS

TONA STEVENSON, PRESIDENT
Res: 701-838-1449 - Bus: 701-838-4459
122 8th Ave NW
Minot ND 58703

JOEL BREHMER, VICE PRESIDENT
Res: 701-371-1504 - Bus: 701-232-1263
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PAUL ELLERKAMP, SECRETARY/TREASURER
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TESTIMONY

HOUSE INDUSTRY, BUSINESS AND LABOR COMMITTEE

TUESDAY, JANUARY 11, 2011

NORTH DAKOTA BOARD OF BARBER EXAMINERS

Good morning Chairman Keiser and members of the House Industry, Business and Labor Committee. My name is Tona Stevenson and I am president of the Board of Barber Examiners. Accompanying me is the Secretary/Treasurer of the Board of Barber Examiners, Paul Ellerkamp. We are here to provide testimony concerning House Bill 1063, subsections 1 and 2 of section 43-04-42 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to Barber licensing fees.

The Board of Barber Examiners is requesting an increase in some of our licensing fees. Our reasons for this request are as follows.

The last increase in fees was set in 1997, 14 years ago. The cost of doing business has increased significantly in that period. We have been diligent in trying to keep costs to a minimum and as a result the operating fund balance has remained relatively steady. We have done this by eliminating the hiring of a guest artist for the past two years for our state convention. Instead we have used our own barbers to demonstrate. We have not consistently attended the annual National Convention of Barber Boards. Also, we have not kept up with our yearly shop inspections, as we should.

It is important that we provide quality continuing education to the barbers of North Dakota and perform annual shop inspections to enforce state laws and insure public safety. It is also important for us as Board members to attend the National Convention to gain and share knowledge with other state boards. The additional funds generated by the increase in fees will allow us to reincorporate these valuable benefits.

The Board reviewed these proposed fee increases with the North Dakota State Barber's Association and received approval.

We would like your favorable consideration on these licensing fee increases, and we thank you for your time and attention to this matter. We would be happy to answer any questions that you may have at this time.

TESTIMONY
SENATE INDUSTRY, BUSINESS AND LABOR COMMITTEE
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2011
NORTH DAKOTA BOARD OF BARBER EXAMINERS

Good morning Chairman Klein and members of the Senate Industry, Business and Labor Committee. My name is Tona Stevenson and I am president of the Board of Barber Examiners. Accompanying me is the Secretary/Treasurer of the Board of Barber Examiners, Paul Ellerkamp. We are here to provide testimony concerning House Bill 1063, subsections 1 and 2 of section 43-04-42 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to Barber licensing fees.

The Board of Barber Examiners is requesting an increase in some of our licensing fees. Our reasons for this request are as follows.

The last increase in fees was set in 1997, 14 years ago. The cost of doing business has increased significantly in that period. We have been diligent in trying to keep costs to a minimum and as a result the operating fund balance has remained relatively steady. We have done this by eliminating the hiring of a guest artist for the past two years for our state convention. Instead we have used our own barbers to demonstrate. We have not consistently attended the annual National Convention of Barber Boards. Also, we have not kept up with our yearly shop inspections, as we should.

It is important that we provide quality continuing education to the barbers of North Dakota and perform annual shop inspections to enforce state laws and insure public safety. It is also important for us as Board members to attend the National Convention to gain and share knowledge with other state boards. The additional funds generated by the increase in fees will allow us to reincorporate these valuable benefits.

The Board reviewed these proposed fee increases with the North Dakota State Barber's Association and received approval.

We would like your favorable consideration on these licensing fee increases, and we thank you for your time and attention to this matter. We would be happy to answer any questions that you may have at this time.