

## House Bill 1426

Presented by: Raven Dybedahl

Before: House Human Services  
The Honorable Robin Weisz, Chairman

Date: January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2021

Chairman Weisz and members of the committee, thank you for your time today to discuss HB 1426 and how it affects me personally. I'm currently a freelance makeup artist, licensed Esthetician, and am employed full time as a product consultant at the retail store Sephora. I attended a cosmetology school in North Dakota to obtain my esthetician education. After obtaining the 600-hour esthetician license in ND, I still needed to complete 1000 hours of supervised training to be able to freelance on location. Which I am fully legal to do freelance work in the state of Minnesota without a license. I know a lot of people who, like me, don't do any freelancing in North Dakota because it's not worth the time and cost of entry to try.

I previously had gone to Faces, etc. in Minnesota that provided a quality makeup artistry education that covered all the sanitary requirements needed and give me the accreditation to work. My time in school for esthetics did not prepare me to

be a professional makeup artist. In fact, we covered makeup in only a day or two of my entire program requirements.

I also have worked in Sephora for 3 years in ND where I was able to apply makeup while working to many people day in and day out without a license prior to school. There was nothing illegal about it, due to a special exemption for retail, but yet if I wanted to take my skills and expertise to my clients' location for their wedding day or another event I would be viewed as criminal because I haven't paid the board of cosmetology to do so.

The cosmetology board is trying to monopolize an area of beauty industry that they are not even educating for success in, and requiring hundreds of hours and thousands of dollars to learn other skills that I don't care to specialize in. My clients recognize my skill and frequently recommend me. However, if I get recommended to a client on the wrong side of the river, I'm forced to decide between getting another client or risk losing my business. I feel like I'm on the black market to do a job that I love, a job that does help others. It is time to decriminalize makeup artists and hairstylists in North Dakota so people like me can earn an honest living without fear.

Thank you and I will stand for any questions.