

As a North Dakota resident and a licensed Master Cosmetologist, I oppose HB 1426.

Salon sanitation has a great impact on the health of both the client and the professional. We must be educated about proper sanitation in order to prevent the transmission of any communicable disease, and facilities providing services should be monitored and inspected on a regular basis, as are salons and professionals currently licenses under Chapter 43-11. Each client or employee has the potential of carrying a type of bacterial, fungal, parasite, or viral infection. It is necessary to correctly take the proper steps to disinfect implements, linens, products and surfaces in a salon. Proper training and sanitation isn't just a concern, it is a responsibility to the public.

While this bill admittedly does allow for niche providers to be required to complete a sanitation course, it explicitly provides that the facilities they provide these services in are not subject to regulation under chapter 43-11; therefore, this presumably would mean that the Board of Cosmetology is not empowered to monitor and inspect these facilities to insure that proper sanitation procedures are being followed. This ultimately is not only a disservice to the public, but potentially an endangerment.

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