Hello and good afternoon. My name is Stacy Todorovic, and I am a social work student aspiring to work in hospice care after my graduation next year. I am testifying today in support of House Bill 1126, specifically Section 20, Chapter 43-11, Subsections 15-22.

This section of the bill ensures that licensed cosmetologists would no longer be required to obtain an establishment license to perform services for residents in elderly care facilities. This change reduces barriers to entry by eliminating unnecessary paperwork, reducing financial burdens from licensing fees, and facilitating greater access for cosmetologists to provide personal care services to elderly residents.

Additionally, nursing homes are not traditional businesses but rather care facilities for individuals with dementia and those experiencing the challenges of aging. They should not be treated the same as commercial salons, which require an establishment license. By removing this licensing requirement, more cosmetologists may be encouraged to offer their services in these settings, benefiting both professionals and the elderly individuals who rely on them for personal care.

For these reasons, I support the passing of Section 20, Chapter 43-11, Subsections 15-22, and I stand for questions.