From: <u>Elizabeth Jones</u>
To: <u>Trisha Linebarger</u>

Subject: FW: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

**Date:** Thursday, June 25, 2020 10:05:40 PM

From: sunset@sunset.texas.govOn Behalf OfTexas Sunset Commission

Sent: Thursday, June 25, 2020 9:38:10 PM (UTC-06:00) Central Time (US & Canada)

To: Sunset Advisory Commission

Subject: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Agency: TEXAS DEPARTMENT LICENSING AND REGULATION

First Name: Yolanda

Last Name: Matthews-Porter

Title: Cosmetology Instructor

Organization you are affiliated with: Spring Branch ISD

Email: yolanda.matthewsporter@springbranchisd.com

City: Houston

State: Texas

Your Comments About the Staff Report, Including Recommendations Supported or Opposed:

Issue 3 Regulating Barbering and Cosmetology Separately Is Inefficient, Unfair, and Unnecessary to Protect the Public.

## I oppose:

Regulating Barbering and Cosmetology licenses separately is efficient, fair and necessary in many ways:

A. It gives students more than one option as a career choice B. Prospects have the opportunity to choose where they want to work C. License and state board fees are the same across the board D. All students are trained to work with the public before, during and after each service including strict infection control measures.

Licensing barbers and cosmetologists is necessary to protect Texans from unsanitary practices along with having the knowledge necessary to execute many services in a salon or barbershop. Barbers and cosmetologist learn similar subject matters but Cosmetologist emphasis is more on chemicals such as hair color and perms, hairstyling, makeup, nails, waxing, and skincare.

Barbers emphasis is more on the male client with a concentration on haircutting and shaving.

Unfortunately, when our curriculum standards and hour requirements were lowered it created a heavy burden in schools to ensure that our students learn the sound knowledge and education needed to work in today's ever changing workplace in such a limited amount of time.

Key Recommendations • Consolidate Texas' regulation of barbers and cosmetologists, and administer the two programs as one. • Eliminate instructor and wig-related licenses

I oppose and my recommendations:

Leave Cosmetology and Barber separate and administer as separate programs.

Leave Wig License as it is because it is still considered hairstyling and prospects need to learn proper training and infection control practices to prevent infecting the wig itself with head lice or potentially causing harm to the client. Remember, cancer patients need and deserve to have licensed professionals that are educated and trained in this area as well.

I also recommend:

Our goal is to get as many prospects licensed since we are professionals.

Create a hairstyling only license: 750 hours to help create additional programs for people working without a license that only want to have a career styling hair only but do not want to enroll in a full cosmetology program.

Create a makeup artist license: 320 hours to help create additional programs for people working without a license that only want to do makeup as a career.

Remember, cosmetology means the practice of performing or offering to perform for compensation for beautifying, cleansing, processing or stimulating a person's scalp, face, neck or arms using cosmetic preparation.

Creating a waxing license: 150 hours to help create additional programs for people working without a license that only want to do waxing as a career.

Our licensed beauty professionals lose billions of dollars a year to unlicensed people servicing clients in many aspects based on what they have learned off you tube, an online course, taking a one day or one week class. We also have potential prospects who desire to be licensed in only one specific area or another but don't want to enroll in a full cosmetology or esthetics program that they are not interested or partially interested in otherwise. Creating new licenses with similar requirements would help to get many unlicensed people out of the kitchen and into the salon thus helping us set the standard we need in our industry.

We went to school to obtain a license to service clients and for someone unlicensed to be able to service a client and charge them what a licensed professional can is certainly unfair. We need our industry back! Please help and support us by raising the standards by keeping us licensed. Our credentials and knowledge speak volume all over the world.

Many licensed professionals have spent days, nights, many all of their life savings, struggled through school, paid all of their tuition out of pocket, went through endless hardships just to obtain their license with many spending a lifetime in the beauty industry to succeed. We are in a national crisis, a nation in an uproar, with many businesses struggling and to suddenly eliminate licensed professionals of their license could cause emotional stress, unforeseen burdens, job loss and potentially cause someone to go into deep depression and beyond over loosing something they worked their entire life to get. Remember to many people their career is their life.

Instructor licenses are necessary because they provide the training necessary beyond the salon in today's classrooms. Merely knowing how to do a skill is not enough in today's classroom to work with a diverse population. You learn how to teach, write lesson plans, classroom management, learning styles, the importance of safety and sanitation, professional development and state board practices and procedures.

We have already lowered our hours standards from 1500 to 1000 hours (one of the lowest states in the U.S) and this has created a burden for anyone who desire to reciprocate to another state from Texas therefore eliminating licenses would be devastating, cause job loss and send the wrong signal to possible prospects that beauty education in Texas is not necessary.

Please help us by not eliminating our licenses or programs.

Thank you

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: I also recommend:

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My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree