



February 26, 2020

To: Members, House Committee on Government Operations
Fr: Salon & Spa Professional Association
Re: Oppose HF 3202 (Christensen)

The Salon & Spa Professional Association (SSPA) is deeply concerned and troubled with HF 3202 as introduced due to its complete deregulation of certain cosmetology related services offered to the public. This legislation runs counter to the State's longstanding statutory policy that *"the health and safety of the people of the state are served by the licensing of the practice of cosmetology"* (MS 155A.21).

HF 3202 specifically seeks to deregulate (1) makeup artistry, (2) simple hairstyling, and (3) eyelash extensions. Each and all are unacceptable for deregulation, especially when the health and safety of Minnesotans are at risk. Consider the following that practitioners must always be aware of within these categories:

- Ever changing products, ingredients, tools, and their proper application.
- Interaction of products with clients (allergies).
- Knowledge of skin and eye conditions that would impact the service.
- Cross contamination dangers with reused products and applicators.
- Disinfection of all tools and implements between clients is critical.
- Proper use of chemical glues and adhesives regarding eyelash extensions.
- Carrying proper liability insurance for services rendered.

Four years ago, eyelash extension practitioners sought and achieved legislation enacted to create a specialty license within cosmetology. That law smartly maintained state oversight on the public's behalf for these sensitive procedures. The law includes a 38-hour training requirement (rather than 1550 hours needed for cosmetology), passing a state test, and 4 hours of continuing education in health, safety, infection control, law and rule every three years thereafter. This is a well-balanced law serving the public's interest and should not be repealed.

Furthermore, this existing specialty license for eyelash extension technicians should serve as a model in creating a similar path for those wishing to only apply makeup or do simple hairstyling. This would maintain the State's interest on behalf of the public while targeting the appropriate education and training requirements that are necessary for these practitioners.

SSPA endorses such an approach in the alternative to HF 3202 and would welcome the opportunity to discuss further.

The Salon & Spa Professional Association is a Minnesota trade association in existence since 1924 that represents and advocates on behalf of our state's over 30,000 licensed practitioners of all cosmetology related fields.