

**SALON SPA**  
**PROFESSIONAL**  
ASSOCIATION

April 30, 2021

To: Representative Mike Nelson, House conference committee chair-- HF 1952  
Senator Mary Kiffmeyer, Senate conference committee chair--HF 1952  
Members, conference committee for HF 1952—omnibus state government finance bill:  
Representatives Sandy Masin, Emma Greenman, Tou Xiong, and Jim Nash  
Senators Andrew Lang, Jeff Howe, Mark Koran, and Jim Carlson

Re: Cosmetology Board transfer to Department of Health (senate version)

Fr: Minnesota Spa & Salon Professional Association (MNSSPA)

On behalf of Minnesota's over 30,000 licensed cosmetologists (providing hair, nails, skin, and eyelash services), in addition to over 5,000 salon owners and over 40 cosmetology colleges statewide as well, **MNSSPA is opposed to transferring the Board of Cosmetologist Examiners to the Department of Health as found in the senate version of HF 1952.**

Our position on this matter is consistent with earlier written testimony submitted to the Senate State Government Finance Committee on March 1, 2021 regarding SF 691, the legislation that originated this language now within the senate omnibus version.

Our members have been well served by the current board and its current structure, including the leadership of its executive director and staff. They have been professional and responsive not only to our state's practitioners of cosmetology, but also to the general public who rely on their regulatory authority to safeguard the general health and safety of our citizens who seek our services.

Proponents of this senate language claim widespread practitioner dissatisfaction with the current board, which is patently untrue. Our association would know if that was the case. Rather, we have observed the board on numerous occasions work with licensees (and license seekers) to help overcome unique situations by granting waivers and variances to overcome obstacles.

This regulatory board rightfully enforces the laws enacted by the legislature. Any related rulemaking has consistently featured full stakeholder engagement with final approval by an administrative law judge. This Board has always been exemplary in their fair application of state laws and rules.

Removing this independent board and transferring it to any state agency would be a travesty to the fine work they have accomplished.

Respectfully submitted,



Susan Brinkhaus, CAE  
Executive Director