

March 20, 2026

RE: HF3528 Board of Barber Examiners provisions modified

Chair Torkelson and members of the Ways and Means Committee,

This bill was developed by the Minnesota Board of Barber Examiners and will reduce onerous regulatory burdens on those seeking to enter the profession of barbering in Minnesota. Specifically, the bill:

- Eliminates a 500-hour barber school requirement for examinees who have failed the registered barber exam.
- Allows examinees who have failed one portion of the exam an opportunity to retake only the failed portion of the exam, provided both portions are passed within one year.
- Provides the board with more flexibility in scheduling additional exams, to accommodate an increasing number of applicants.
- Eliminates the requirement that barber school applicants undergo a hearing at the Court of Administrative Hearings, eliminating a costly and time-consuming hurdle for applicants.
- Repeals ten rules that would be duplicative or contradictory due to the changes made by this bill. Most of the statutory language in this bill is currently found in requirements in rule. (Minn. Rules, Chapter 2100)
- Adjusts fees to align with the proposed examination changes without an impact to costs to the applicant or board revenues. A person entering the profession currently pays \$205 in fees over a roughly two year period, and under this bill, they will continue to pay the same total amount over the same time period.

The bill will also incorporate recommendations from the OLA's 2021 Board of Cosmetology Licensing evaluation report. This bill makes the following changes:

- Replaces the current requirement that applicants complete at least 10th grade with a requirement that applicants be at least 17 years of age. This change aligns barber licensure with existing cosmetology requirements and more closely reflects national barber standards.
- Provides licensed cosmetologists with credit of up to 1000 hours of training toward the 1500-hour requirement to become a registered barber in Minnesota, recognizing overlapping training and reducing duplicative education requirements.
- Defines "straight razor shaving" and "waxing," and clarifies that waxing is not a barber service under Minnesota law.

Respectfully,



Brent Grebinoski
Executive Director
Minnesota Board of Barber Examiners