



PHONE 651.201.2742 EFAX 651.649.5702 EMAIL cosmetology@state.mn.us 1000 University Ave W, Ste 100 | St. Paul, Minnesota 55104

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Chair Mary Kiffmeyer State Government Finance and Policy and Elections Committee 95 University Avenue W. Minnesota Senate Bldg., Room 3103 St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chair Kiffmeyer:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony on the status of the Office of the Legislative Auditor report titled Board of Cosmetology Licensing. I apologize in advance that we could not be available for testifying. We appreciate the work that was conducted by the Office of the Legislative Auditor staff for this program evaluation for the Board of Cosmetology ("Board").

We have drafted legislation to address several recommendations in the report and that was sent to committee aides/staff to both the Senate State Government Finance and Policy and Elections Committee and the House State Government Finance and Elections. We believe the drafted legislation reflects the conversations we have had with committee chairs and staff.

The Board is open to many of the recommendations including:

- The Board is open to changing its licensing structure. The Board believes an advisory committee should be established to study the issue.
- The Board is open to creating specialty licenses and is supportive of SF 3363/HF 3155 which creates a hair technician license.
- The Board supports issuing just one type of salon license, since the health and safety requirements for all salons are the same.

Cosmetologists provide services in nearly every community throughout the state of Minnesota. We are proud of the work we do throughout the state to for our licensees, citizens, and the general public.

Sincerely,

Gina Fast

Executive Director