



**Proponent Testimony on HB 189  
Before the  
House Government Accountability and Oversight Committee  
By  
David Boucher  
On  
June 21, 2017**

Chairman Blessing, Vice Chair Reineke, Ranking Member Clyde and members of the House Government Accountability and Oversight Committee thank you for the opportunity to provide proponent testimony on the cosmetology reforms contained in HB 189, jointly sponsored by Rep. Kristina Roegner (R-Hudson) and Rep. Alicia Reece (D-Cincinnati). My name is David Boucher, and I am the franchisee/owner of 2 Sport Clips Haircuts in Ohio with 17 employees/licenses throughout Ohio. One of my stores is located in West Chester, Ohio and the other is located in South Lebanon Ohio. I intend to open 2 more stores in Central and Southern Ohio in the next year or two.

As a small business owner in the salon business I face a significant challenge in staffing our stores and I believe that HB 189 will directly benefit my stores, my stylists and my clients. We are fortunate to have more clients who would like to patronize our stores than we can support. Yes, our sales are constrained due to a limitation in the number of service providers (licensed cosmetologists) we can hire. If the unnecessary burden of 1,500 hours was reduced to 1,000 hours we anticipate that we can employ at least 2 more people per location. These are good jobs that are going unfilled with most positions earning from \$18-\$36/hour. We know from our stylists and from research that the commitment needed by a student to pay for and attend school for 1,500 hours is excessive and prohibits many people from entering the cosmetologist profession. Lightening that requirement to 1,000 hours will ease that burden and encourage people to enter into a great profession.

Similarly, we have people whom would like to work in Ohio for us, but without an Ohio license due to a relocation; then subsequently finding out that their license from another state is not valid in Ohio and that Ohio requires additional testing and potentially additional hours. License reciprocity between states would make what it should be - a non-issue. While many relocated

stylists do go through the process of getting their Ohio license, I have never seen a stylist change any of their cutting skills, client skills, or any behavior, in any way due to this additional process. Cutting hair is a 'universal' skill that should easily transfer from state to state. Why shouldn't a stylist be able to find employment in Ohio in order to do the exact same thing she does in any other state with licensure?

Mr. Chairman, thank you for the opportunity to provide proponent testimony on **HB 189** to the committee. We desperately need these reforms to ease the burden on entering the profession so our businesses can continue to thrive and provide jobs for so many Ohioans.

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