

**Proponent Testimony on HB 189**

**Before the House Government Accountability and Oversight Committee**

**By Rachelle King**

**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 Rachelle King and I am small business salon owner. I own three salons in Cleveland, Garrettsville and Columbus and provide 27 Ohioans with good jobs.

HB 189 will bring common-sense cosmetology licensing reform to our state. I hope I can count on your support for this initiative. Once passed, House Bill 189 will:

- Focus on student success in entering the beauty industry with less debt and ability to repay student loans.
- Facilitate workforce development pipeline for salons.
- Foster entrepreneurship making it easier for licensed professionals to start their own businesses.

HB 189 is a strong example of reasonable legislation that directly addresses concerns of over-regulation of state-mandated occupational licensing, and will create meaningful changes to archaic cosmetology licensing laws that desperately need reform. My biggest concern in the cosmetology industry today is the lack of reciprocity between states. I believe HB 189 has the means to create that unity in my industry. State-to-state license reciprocity is something I hope to see happen as soon as possible. In fact, I recently wanted to hire two stylists from the state of West Virginia. Because of the over burdensome regulations, the stylists would have had to go back to school for additional hours, spending money and time on an education they had already received. Our state missed gaining two potential Ohioans due to those regulations.

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide written proponent testimony. I urge your support and expedient passage of HB 189.