

To whom this letter may concern,

I want to begin by saying that at the end of the day the main goal is to keep the barber board intact and separate from the board of cosmetology. However, there are a few suggestions we would like to be considered.

The first suggestion is that the required hours of schooling be lowered from 1800 to 1500. We believe that 1500 hours is a sufficient amount of time to teach and equip students with the necessary tools needed to pass their state barber exam, as well as prosper as professional barbers once the exam is passed.

We also would like to suggest continuing education requirements for all licensed barbers. The continued education should be required every 2 years and will be taught by licensed barber instructors, at one of the 14 barber schools in the State.

The class will be 4 hours and will consist of

1 hour of razor training,


1 hour of sanitation training, and

1 hour of barbershop management (taxes, marketing and advertisement, first aid, cpr, etc....)

1 hour of human trafficking & HIV all information will be taught in compliance with the Milady barbering textbook. Last but not least, we would like to see a change in the required state board.

While the current required haircut has sufficed for over 50 years, the barbering industry has evolved and it would be in the best interest of the Ohio barber board to try and evolve with the profession. The current required haircut for the state board exam, a medium sideburn taper, is sufficient, but we would like to see possibly more updated styles to also be acceptable for the exam. Please take these suggestions into careful consideration as they will only improve and elevate the profession on barbering back to its rightful place as one of the most respected trades we have today.

Sincerely,


Mr. Eric D. Garrett, Sr
330.554-8868

The Board was established in 1934 to protect the public by establishing, maintaining and monitoring sanitary and professional standards in the barber industry. The Board's mission is to enforce those standards through examinations, routine inspections, investigations and disciplinary action

The State has looked at consolidating the Boards several times. The findings concluded that regulation by the two boards was essential to public health and safety and that combining the two Boards would not save money or be more effective.

Many States have tried similar measures, resulting in staff cutbacks; which results in inefficiency and delays in Board services such as: licensing and inspections, which ultimately pose a health risk to the public. Failure to routinely inspect shops for sanitary conditions has an impact on the health and safety of the consuming public

An unintended consequence that has arisen in other states that has a merged board is the configuration of the board. In many cases there is an unequal representation of barbers to cosmetologists. This results in barbers being under-represented and less able to have their concerns addressed. It would be safe to assume that this would result in obvious inequity during law/rule change discussions and voting outcomes that can leave the barbering profession vulnerable to cosmetology oriented and initiated mandates.

A disparity between the Boards concerns the difference in educational criteria for licensure in terms of hours, curriculum, practice, and testing. For example:

- Barbering requires 1800 clock hours; cosmetology requires 1500 clock hours.
- The barbering curriculum includes shaving; cosmetology does not.
- Barbering requires 800 clinic *services*; cosmetology requires 750 clinic *hours*.
- Barbering requires a live model for practical licensure exams to demonstrate competency; cosmetology prohibits live models and requires mannequins to demonstrate competency.
- Key points:
 1. Due to differences in educational criteria, licensure candidate evaluations and records could not be consolidated into one record management system for the purpose of reducing costs and/or staff and will still require separate processes and procedures to maintain.
 2. With the exception of basic sanitation compliance, neither barber nor cosmetology inspectors would be able to crossover to the other discipline as it applies to safety compliance. For example, a cosmetology inspector may not know if a straight razor is being used in a safe manner or not; conversely, a barber inspector may not know if cuticle nippers are being used in a safe manner or not.
 3. Cosmetology examiners would not be sufficiently trained to proctor or

evaluate practical competency exams for barbers and the safe use of straight razors.

Ohio State Barber Board is most effective in the following areas:

- website content and ease of user navigation
- guidance and information for licensure candidates, licensees, shop owners, and schools
- frequent and hands-on shop and school inspections
- unlicensed activity investigation and follow up
- facilitation and oversight of licensing examinations
- general access to Board administrators and staff
- accountability and fiscal responsibility