

January 29, 2020

Chairman Wiggam, Vice Chair Stephens, Ranking Member Kelly, and members of the House State and Local Government Committee:

My name is Emily Martin and I live in Shelby, Ohio. I am testifying today to show my support for H.B. 399, The Cosmetology Licensing and Reform Act.

In 2008 I graduated from Toni & Guy, which is a competitive, well known, cosmetology school in northwest Pennsylvania. Just four weeks after graduating I got married and moved to Tennessee with my new husband, where he was still attending college. I did not have enough hours of schooling according to the state of Tennessee to work. Despite completing 1,250 hours of schooling and spending over \$12,000 to earn my certification, I needed to go back to school. Pennsylvania, where I attended school requires 1,250 hours of schooling to be board eligible, while Tennessee required 1,500. Going back to school was not option for me, so I was unable to work in my chosen field.

The lack of state reciprocity is harmful to our economy and subsequently family earning. Allowing a licensed cosmetologist to enter the state of Ohio and join our workforce using their reciprocal license from another state allows for smooth transitions for families who are coming to Ohio. This lack of reciprocity prevented me from doing a job I was in fact trained for. Lack of reciprocity prevented me from joining the workforce, therefore preventing me from providing for my family and adding value to my local economy.

Please consider supporting H.B. 399, it is important for families and for keeping Ohio strong.

Thank you for your time and effort.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Emily Martin". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Emily Martin
37 Auburn Avenue
Shelby, Ohio 44875