

Opponent Testimony on HB 399
Before the House State and Local Government Committee
By: Ciera Jacks
2/18/2020

Chairman Wiggam, Vice Chair Stephens, Ranking Member Kelly and members of the House State and Local Government Committee, I'm a consumer who has frequented salons all of my life. In all of my 31 years, I've experienced the good, the bad and the ugly of the beauty industry. In fact, one of my worst experiences in a salon came from a relaxer service that I received from a cosmetology student who was interning; because I was not supervised in the manner I would have been with a licensed cosmetologist, I was left with painful sores and chemical burns on my scalp. I imagine with less training, this will happen more frequently to consumers. With that being said, I have not, nor do I plan to ever let someone who is less trained or given a 'speed quota' service me. I'm a firm believer that people frequent salons for the experience AND results achieved from their stylist. I have seen the horror stories online and in social media where less trained professionals have incorrectly serviced clients and even harmed them, though unintentionally. What many legislators fail to realize is these stylists are using dangerous chemicals and tools that require specific knowledge and training that should be regulated at a school and not passed down via apprenticeships from professionals who may not even remember any of the book at all or have barely passed the licensing exam however many years ago. I also fear that training will become 'watered down.' Clients are rendered extremely vulnerable when receiving any beauty service. I plead that you strongly consider voting against this bill that poses great harm to the community and consumers of the beauty industry in general.

Sincerely,

Ciera Jacks