

Jeff Lehman

Dear Representative Stein,

Please pass HB 277

I express my support for HB 277. We need the common-sense reforms put forth in HB 277. Other states have already implemented these reforms.

Cosmetology hours:

- 1,000-hour cosmetology programs already exist in other states including CA, NY, MA, TX and VT. States have successfully trained students in 1,000 hours for decades. Why is Ohio keeping students in school longer?

- A study by a third-party research firm that was funded jointly by salon operators and the national beauty school association documents that longer curriculums have no benefit to the students, yet the higher costs of completing a 1,500+-hour curriculum - both tuition and living expenses for the longer programs - result in higher student loan debt, which is a significant burden to these graduates. Pass rates, completion rates, and wages earned upon graduation do not change with the length of the program.

Common-sense licensing standards are critical for sustainable growth of our industry. Our industry needs your help.

Please support this bill.

Sincerely,

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