

Chairman Stein, Vice Chair Johnson, Ranking Member Lepore-Hagan and members of the Ohio House Commerce and Labor Committee.

My name is Katt Marriott, and I am a licensed cosmetologist/former salon owner/cosmetology Instructor at a Career Technical School in Chillicothe Ohio representing two counties Pickaway and Ross. I'm here today to express my support for HB 277.

I have seen many changes occur over the past 30 plus years in the Cosmetology Industry. I attended a small private school to obtain my education and did so using an 1800 clock hour manage program. While I value and respect that plan it is NOT the best platform for today's learner. We at a career technical school use dual credit for some of the academic coursework giving the student advantages of participating in internships and real-life experiences. This proposal gives today's learner more flexibility and unique experiences with clients that students have been missing out on over the past 2 year since Covid 19. These experiences are needed to make valuable well-rounded stylist. Today's adult learner has many outside obligations and distraction and this plan provides a smoother transition from school to the work place.

As a former salon owner and educator, I proudly support Ohio Career Technical Schools. The high standards that each student is required to meet for each skill in both knowledge and hands on is exceptional.

The standards that each Career technical school educator is required to get bachelor's degree/or equivalent as well as maintain the required training in the cosmetology field is rigorous.

This proposal is a common sense approach to our industry while I understand the private schools are a for profit business we at the Career Technical Educators are passionate in the success of each student achievement in not only obtaining a diploma but a license as well.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide the committee with proponent testimony on HB 277. I urge your support for the bill.

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