



GOVERNMENT OVERSIGHT
AND REFORM
COMMITTEE

Witness Form

Today's Date NOV 28 2022

Name: Nancy Brown

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Organization Representing: BROWN AUEDA INSTITUTE, LADIES & GENTLEMEN SALONS

Testifying on Bill Number: HB 542

Testimony: Verbal Written Both

Testifying As: Proponent Opponent Interested Party

Are you a Registered Lobbyist? Yes No

Special Requests: _____

Opposition Testimony
Am. Sub. HB 542
November 30, 2022
Senate Government Oversight and Reform Committee
Kristina Roegner, Chair Rob McColley Vice Chair
Ranking Member Craig, Members Hoagland, Land, Schaffer, Thomas

I am the President and Owner of 3 Cosmetology Schools: Brown Aveda Institutes in Mentor, Strongsville and Casal Aveda Institute in Niles Ohio. I am licensed and have practiced as both Instructor and Managing Cosmetologist.

I also am the owner of 2 Salons founded in 1975. Ladies and Gentlemen Salons and spas in Mentor and Legacy Village in Lyndhurst Ohio. We employ 225 cosmetologists, estheticians, and nail technicians. We are approaching our 50th anniversary, and are extremely proud of the impact we have made in the Ohio beauty industry.

We can only speculate as to why particular legislators continue to repeatedly seek education reduction, as we have not had communication from them. It just seems they are relentless but have never engaged with us to better understand what we do, and how important education is.

It has been a labor of love to reach out to our fellow cosmetologists for their input and the general public who come to our establishments as customers. Unfailingly **none of these people are in favor of less training** for their hairdressers, nail techs, or estheticians.

We have been proud of our state for not being lax on public health and safety measures. We testified in person and by letter and petition and explained to each and every committee how our rules and laws for public safety are much more than disinfecting a surface. Each protocol for a service has a separate set of safety and sanitation practices.

While some states were closed as much as a year due to Covid, we were open much sooner. **Our Ohio State Board Inspector said to us "Our safety training in Ohio is so complete all we had to add was distance and a mask."**

The current Sub HB 542 would shorten the Cosmetology Hours to 1000. Currently 1500 hours for licensure allows the student to graduate with Licensure in three Career Paths: Haircare, Esthetics, Nail Care. This is a tight time frame, but 1000 hours would make it impossible.

Many of the Chain Salons have a similar business model of a fast-food restaurant, relying on a large supply of licensed cosmetologists. As much as fast food is appreciated it should not eliminate family-owned restaurants, in other words, Independent Contractor business models, rather than franchises.

Should salons take on the burden of training? Picture this, instead of a relaxing service, you as a customer must sit through a demonstration of your haircut, or color service so the new stylist can learn. Not a pretty picture. That's why a Clinic in a Cosmetology School exists for practice under the watchful eye of a licensed instructor.

Thank you for your attention. I ask for a **NO** vote on this bill, or elimination of the amendments would be appreciated as an alternative. Especially since they were not a part of the original bill as passed by the House.

Sincerely Yours,

Nancy Brown

President

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Ladies and Gentlemen Salons and Brown Aveda and Casal Aveda Institutes