



Before the Higher Education Committee
Rep. Tom Young, Chair

Sponsor Testimony by Rep. Elliot Forhan

House Bill 414, "Establish the Comprehensive Science of Hair Learning Institute"
Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Chair Young, members of the committee,

I ask you today for your support of a bill, House Bill 414, "Establish the Comprehensive Science of Hair Learning Institute." The bill would create as a state institution of higher education an institute dedicated to promoting the science of hair.

Everyone in Ohio, no matter where they are in our state, deserves to be able to find and obtain barber and hair-styling services that are appropriate for and applicable to the physics of their own hair. That is the goal of this legislation: to equip our state's cosmetology and beauty workers with the training to use the scope of tools of current hair science.

The origin of H.B. 414 was an encounter last year between a Statehouse visitor and me. The visitor was Ms. Ladosha Wright, owner of a cosmetology business in Greater Cleveland, an advocate for Ohio's cosmetology and beauty industry and a resident of the beautiful City of Euclid in House District 21, my district. Ms. Wright and I worked together for months on the bill and introduced it in February together. Ms. Wright is here today. Thanks again to her for the support and collaboration.

One note: the appropriation amount was supposed to be a placeholder, to be determined by the committee. It looks like I may have introduced by mistake a version of the bill that defined the amount. I apologize for the error. Please consider that amount to be a placeholder for the committee to determine.

Please let me know if you have any questions. I am available by phone at (216) 352-3867 and by email at Elliot.Forhan@ohiohouse.gov.

Thanks,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "E. Forhan".

Rep. Elliot P. Forhan
Ohio's 21st House District