



National Association of Barber Boards of America

Bruce Waight, President
nabba.bwright@gmail.com

Maura Scali-Sheahan, EdD; CEO
nabba.mss@gmail.com

Donnie Snyder, 1st Vice President
nabba.d.snyder.wv@gmail.com

Melissa Jones-Horton, 2nd Vice President
nabba.melissajhorton@gmail.com

Renee Patton, BA; Treasurer
nabba.r.patton@gmail.com

Dominic Muniz, 3rd Vice President
nabba.dominicmuniz@gmail.com

December 3, 2023

Re: Substitute Bill H. B. No. 238

Dear Chairwoman John, Vice Chair Dean, Ranking Member Brennan and members of the Ohio House State and Local Government Committee,

The National Association of Barber Boards of America (NABBA) was formed in 1926 for the purpose of maintaining professional standards and policies in the barbering industry; we currently represent 24 state regulatory boards associated with this purpose. Professional standards and safety can only be maintained if Legislatures recognize the value that education and training bring to a profession, its licensees, and the public served by that profession.

The NABBA opposes any substitute bills or amendments to H. B. 238 that provide a potential gateway for the adoption of the recommendations put forth in the *Occupational License Review Report* of November 14, 2023. Specifically, these include recommendations, such as:

- Reducing educational training hours in barbering, cosmetology, manicuring, and esthetics;
- Eliminating continuing education requirements in professions that require current and timely updates;
- Extending the duration of licensure before renewal;
- Eliminating advanced licenses;
- Fee reductions that may result in insufficient financial sustainability for the State Cosmetology and Barber Board.

Conversely, the NABBA **does not** oppose the passage of H. B. 238 in its original version and as a "clean bill" that is more in keeping with regulation reform, rather than the de-regulation of education and training hours necessary to ensure a competent workforce. Education and training requirements must fall under the purview of profession-related experts, in conjunction with the Legislature, followed by an in-depth discussion with all stakeholders, substantive qualitative and quantitative data, and ultimately, consensus regarding any changes to be made.

We respectfully request your consideration of the aforementioned concerns during current or future testimony and discussion regarding reductions in education and training hours that will negatively impact Ohio cosmetologists, barbers and the public they serve. Please contact me via email or phone for questions or clarifications.

Respectfully,

Maura Scali-Sheahan

Maura Scali-Sheahan, EdD; Chief Executive Officer
National Association of Barber Boards of America
Nabba.mss@gmail.com
904-268-5351