



Proponent Testimony in Support of SB 89 June 5, 2023

By David Boucher

Chair Roegner,

Thank you for the opportunity to present proponent testimony on SB 89. My name is David Boucher, and I am a franchisee with Sport Clips Haircuts and the President of Bhooshay Enterprises of Ohio, LLC operating 5 salons doing business as Sport Clips. We have four locations in Southern Ohio - West Chester, South Lebanon, Greene Township, Fairfield as well as one store located in Northern Kentucky.

Stylists relocating to Ohio are either not working or working outside their chosen profession due to the difficulty of receiving an Ohio cosmetology license. Recently, we hired two stylists who had to wait several months to get their Ohio cosmetology license. One of them recently expressed her frustrations with the process as she was required to get, among other items, her high school transcripts for the cosmetology board. They did not find her college degree, her existing license, the overabundance of training hours she had received beyond what Ohio requires, and her 27 years of experience to be acceptable to get a license and practice in Ohio. She felt bullied and belittled. She went to work at the CVG airport as a baggage handler while she waited months to get her license. Fortunately, she stayed in our industry when so many others are simply abandoning the career they have established over many years.

Currently, we have extended job offers to two additional stylists planning to move to the area – one to Ohio and one to Kentucky and both would benefit from the Cosmetology Licensure Compact. One stylist is living in Missouri and the other one is living in Colorado and has multiple state licensures already, yet both have waited months to move to Ohio to make sure they could stay in the cosmetology industry.

Additionally, stylists in Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky could benefit tremendously by being able to have employment opportunities in either state. The ½ mile wide Ohio River doesn't create a barrier to working in the neighboring state, but the difficulty in licensing certainly does. Reciprocity in Ohio helps, but only if the other state accepts the reciprocity. Currently, Kentucky does not.

Our experience is simply this...we have not found a difference in the quality or knowledge of stylists from one state to another. So this legislation represents a very common sense approach to bringing cosmetologists to work in Ohio.

Thank you for considering my input. I urge your support for the bill.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Boucher". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

David Boucher

Team Leader (Franchisee) with Sport Clips Haircuts