



## National Association of Barber Boards of America

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September 24, 2023

Re: S. B. No. 89 - Amendment No. AM\_135\_1105

Dear Senator Roegner and Government Oversight Committee Members,

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 the Amendment to SB 89 for the following reasons:

- The Ohio State Cosmetology and Barber Board consists of 13 members, only two of which are barbers, resulting in a lack of equal representation and voting privilege for the entirely separate profession of barbering.
- Barbering education, training and licensure are separate from cosmetology and the profession at large should not be forced to accept the limitations of a cosmetology-centered compact. Known impacts include:
  - The devaluation of licenses held by current licensees and the reduction in the transferability of their licenses to other states and their employability opportunities nationwide;
  - The reduction of education and training clock-hours necessary to achieve basic skills and entry-level competencies of future licensees, in addition to the reduction in transferability of their future licenses and employability opportunities nationwide.
- Most workforce programs are guided by a 20/80 ratio of theory-to-practical instruction. The Amendment to SB 89 eliminates 44% (800 clock hours) of a curriculum that currently ensures instruction and practice in concepts and skills sets that are vital to protecting the public in the performance of personal services.
- The push from corporations and NGOs to reduce barbering education and training hours is not supported by hard data, nor requests, from the very individuals it impacts the most, i.e. students, schools, instructors, independent shop owners, licensees, etc..

Given the above facts and concerns, we respectfully request your No vote to amending SB 89 and to consider the negative consequences this amendment will have on barbers, students and small businesses in Ohio.

Respectfully,

Maura Scali-Sheahan, EdD; Chief Executive Officer