

Representative Kellie Deeter House District 54

Chair Schmidt, Ranking Member Somani, and members of the House Health Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide sponsor testimony on House Bill 377.

House Bill 377 modernizes Ohio law governing laser hair removal by addressing inconsistencies that have existed since the 133rd General Assembly and clarifying the statute after the elimination of the cosmetic therapist license in 2021. Without these updates, individuals who were previously licensed or trained in cosmetic therapy remain in a gray area of the law, creating confusion for providers, physicians, and patients.

Specifically, the bill:

- Establishes the category of "laser hair removal professionals," which includes former cosmetic therapists and individuals who complete qualifying cosmetic therapy coursework.
- Clarifies that the in-person patient meeting requirement for initial treatment applies only to laser hair removal professionals, not to all delegates.
- Adjusts supervision ratios, allowing a physician to supervise up to five laser hair removal professionals and up to five nurses at one time, instead of only two delegates in total.
- Permits off-site supervision of nurses performing laser hair removal when they have completed approved training.
- Extends supervisory and delegation authority to advanced practice registered nurses and physician assistants, under the same conditions as physicians.
- Updates technical definitions, reorganizes provisions for readability, and corrects the wavelength standard for light-based medical devices.

This legislation does not expand scope of practice, but instead clarifies and streamlines existing law, maintains strong training and safety requirements, and removes unnecessary barriers for providers. Most importantly, it ensures continuity for professionals who were impacted by the removal of the cosmetic therapist license.

This bill is the result of an interested party meeting, and I will continue to work together with those interested parties as this bill moves through the legislative process.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide sponsor testimony on House Bill 377. I am happy to answer any questions.