

Proponent Testimony on HB 189
Before the House Government Accountability and Oversight Committee
By Dana Pollatos and Christine Castle, Dana Lauren Salon & Spa
On June 21, 2017

Chairman Blessing, Vice Chair Reineke, Ranking Member Clyde and members of the House Government Accountability and Oversight Committee: thank you for the opportunity to provide proponent testimony on the cosmetology reforms contained in HB 189, jointly sponsored by Rep. Kristina Roegner (R-Hudson) and Rep. Alicia Reece (D-Cincinnati). My name is Dana Pollatos and I am representing my salon co-owner, Christine Castle and myself. We own Dana Lauren Salon & Spa in Broadview Heights, Ohio.

HB 189 will bring common-sense cosmetology licensing reform to our state. I hope I can count on your support for this initiative. Once passed, House Bill 189 will:

- Focus on student success in entering the beauty industry with less debt and ability to repay student loans.
- Facilitate workforce development pipeline for salons.
- Foster entrepreneurship making it easier for licensed professionals to start their own businesses.

HB 189 is a strong example of reasonable legislation that directly addresses concerns of over-regulation of state-mandated occupational licensing, and will create meaningful changes to archaic cosmetology licensing laws that desperately need reform. My biggest concern in the cosmetology industry today is the lack of reciprocity between states. I believe HB 189 has the means to create that unity in my industry. State-to-state license reciprocity is something I hope to see happen as soon as possible.

The knowledge behind the chemicals we use is far beyond elementary sciences. Licensed professionals are trained to utilize chemicals and tools safely to avoid injuries and the spread of infectious diseases such as burns, hair damage and loss, ring worm, folliculitis, lice, chemical burns, scarring, staph infections, nail separation, infections after waxing, Hepatitis B or Hepatitis C, HIV and more. The 1,000-hour requirement proscribed in this legislation for a full cosmetology license is plenty of time to provide the initial education for individuals to begin their careers.

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide written proponent testimony. I urge your support and expedient passage of HB 189.