



SMALL BUSINESS AND  
ECONOMIC OPPURTUNITY  
COMMITTEE

Witness Form

Today's Date 5/17/2021

Name: MARIE M. PANNEU-BIGGS

Address: 2243 ANTIGUA DRIVE  
COLUMBUS, OH 43235

Telephone: (614) 557-7937

Organization Representing: \_\_\_\_\_

Testifying on Bill Number: SB133

Testimony:  Verbal  Written  Both

Testifying As:  Proponent  Opponent  Interested Party

Are you a Registered Lobbyist?  Yes  No

Special Requests: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Opposition Testimony to SB 133**  
**Before the Senate Small Business and Economic Opportunity Committee**  
**Marie M. Pannell-Biggs**  
**May 19, 2021**

**To: Chairman Rulli, Vice Chairman Lang, Ranking Member Sykes and Members of the Senate Small Business and Economic Opportunity Committee.**

Greetings, my name is Marie M. Panell-Biggs, and I am writing to offer my views and strong opposition to Senate Bill 133.

I have been involved in the beauty industry for over 20 years. I have vast amounts of experience in almost every aspect of the beauty industry, including education, editorial work, sales, marketing, retail, and salon/spa operations. In 2013 following my graduation from the Aveda Institute Columbus, I was able to become an entrepreneur and start my own business in the wonderful beauty industry; a business that I am still currently operating. Along with owning and operating my own business, I am also an educator at my alma mater, the Aveda Institute Columbus. This role allows me to educate future professionals on technical skills and business skills to set them up for success upon graduation. Prior to entering the beauty industry, I worked in the accounting industry for 5 years.

I respectfully ask that you consider my experience and credentials in reviewing my testimony and when casting your vote on this bill.

I am strongly opposed to Senate Bill 133 and I am very concerned about the negative impact this bill would have if passed. The key issues that I am concerned about are as follows:

1. The lack of evidence supporting the reduction of hours. The current structure of 1500 hours ensures proper safety, sanitation, and overall public health education. How would reducing the hours ensure that students are being properly trained on safety, sanitation, and public health concerns?
2. The destruction of reciprocity with other states. By reducing the Cosmetology hours to 1000 hours, you reduce reciprocity with almost every other state in the country except for four.
3. This bill would negatively impact women, especially black women, women of color, and low-income students. This bill carries with it the burden of small business owners having to provide additional training that they cannot afford to provide. It also creates a higher debt load on students, but with lower expected wages upon graduation.

As a professional and an educator, I get to see firsthand how this bill will have a negative impact on safety, sanitation, skill development, and on the industry as a whole. I am not confident that this industry will continue to thrive if this bill is passed.

Thank you for your time and consideration,



Marie M. Pannell-Biggs