

19 May 2021
Opposition Testimony on SB133

To Chairman Rulli, Vice-Chair Lang, Ranking Member Sykes, and the Small Business and Economic Opportunity Committee members: Thank you for considering my testimony as I urge you to vote no on Senate Bill 133.

My name is Erica Hickman and I am currently a barber student at Dayton Barber College. I currently have a little over 1000 hours. If this bill passes right now I would be graduating and to be completely honest, I am nowhere near ready at this point. COVID has definitely slowed a lot of our learning down. I understand this bill wants to reduce hours. This sounds amazing but when you really think about it you will understand that all 1800 hours are needed. Barbers are not just cutting hair. We are doing facials, using chemicals, using straight razors. We are listening to our clients....sometimes we are the only outlet they have. Our job title and skill set is more than just an 11 minute haircut. If this bill passes you will destroy the Art of Barbering! I need all the hours! I want to absorb all I can before I go out into the industry.

Another thing, a lot of the students I am in school with receive Pell Grants and this bill would make it so they receive little to nothing! These students came from very rough backgrounds... this is their way out and they rely on that grant. You would be deterring a lot of people from joining simply because they can't afford it. I am all for second chances and these kids deserve to have their opportunity. Please do not pass this bill.

Thank you,

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