

**Proponent Testimony on SB 129**

**Before the**

**Before the Senate Government Oversight & Reform Committee**

**By**

**Marcy & Mike Mendenhall**

**On Tuesday, December 12, 2017**

Chairman Coley, Vice Chair Uecker, Ranking Member Schiavoni and distinguished members of the Senate Government Accountability & Reform Committee. My name is Marcy Mendenhall, and I am the franchisee/owner of 2 Sport Clips Haircuts in Ohio with 11 employees/licensees throughout Ohio. One of my stores is located in Loveland, Ohio and the other is located in Harrison, Ohio. I intend to open 1 more store in Southern Ohio in the next year or two.

I want to express my support for the cosmetology reforms contained in SB 129.

My husband and I are small business owners for Sport Clips in Ohio and our stores have staffing issues on-going and I think that HB189 will help our stores and staffing concerns. We are unable to grow our stores further until we are staffed appropriately because we can’t serve our clients appropriately. If the unnecessary burden of 1,500 hours was reduced to 1,000 hours we anticipate that we can employ at least 2 more people per location. We know from our stylists and from research that the commitment needed by a student to pay for and attend school for 1,500 hours is excessive and prohibits many people from entering the cosmetologist profession. Lightening that requirement to 1,000 hours will ease that burden and encourage people to enter into a great profession.

Also, we are running into issues where people would like to work for us; however, due to the hoops Ohio has us to transfer a license and additional testing is causing problems. We have one stylists that has been trying to transfer her license from Colorado to Ohio since mid-January. How is the stylist suppose to earn a living with no license? The process should not take this long.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide proponent testimony on SB 129 to the committee. I understand this hearing is the last opportunity for SB129 to be discussed before the holidays. I urge your favorable action on the bill in early 2018.