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Rep. Lynn Gattis,

I am writing this letter in support of HB131. This bill will provide the public with well trained professionals and have health and safety requirements in place that are now non existent in our state.

Currently requiring only 12 hours of education, Alaska has the lowest amount of education hours in the United States. In the interest of public safety this needs to change and be increased to the standard of the profession with a minimum of 100 hours of education.

As a lifelong Alaskan and business owner in Anchorage I have found it appalling that we do not have a qualified licensure for manicurists/pedicurists in the state of Alaska. You can be sure that most of the general public does not have any information or knowledge that they are receiving services from businesses that rarely have any professional training on procedures, sanitation, safety or contra indications for services.

I owned an accredited Reflexology and Acupressure school for 12 years and required 500 hours of training before students could work with the public. We used no sharp instruments, we worked with just our fingers, and we had non of the sanitary issues that the manicurist profession does.

I appreciate your consideration and I urge you to support this HB

In Health,

Kathy Ungerecht

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