

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

Interim – May-December:
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907-269-0216
907-269-0218 (fax)



Session – January-April:
State Capitol, Rm. 118
Juneau, AK 99801
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REPRESENTATIVE GABRIELLE LEDOUX

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HB 289 “An Act relating to the membership of the Board of Barbers and Hairdressers”

House Bill 289 creates equal board representation for all licensees governed by the Board of Barbers and Hairdressers. The board oversees the licensing of 2,271 hairdressers; 962 manicurists and nail technicians; 542 estheticians; 151 barbers; and 146 tattoo and piercing artists. The existing board structure has 1 hairdresser, 1 hairdresser with an esthetician certification, 1 tattoo or piercing artist, 1 public member and 2 barbers.

In 2015, the legislature passed HB 131, which required manicurists and nail technicians to become licensed through the board; however the existing statute does not provide for representation from that sector of the industry. HB 289 fixes this by increasing the board from 6 to 7 members, so that the second largest body of licensees the board oversees has a seat at the table to represent their trade.

HB 289 reallocates one designated barber seat to a licensee at-large. This alteration reflects the changes in the industry. When the board seats were originally allocated, over 1,200 barbers were licensed in Alaska. That number has fallen to 151 licensed barbers today. The reallocation of one member alters the board composition to better reflect the current industry membership levels.

I ask for your consideration and support of HB 289.