

Jeannine Jabaay
Public Member, BOARD OF BARBERS AND HAIRDRESSERS
19638 Hope Highway 35, Hope, Alaska 99605
Ph. 907-748-1111; marketing@alaskatreeline.com

Re: HB289/SB168

February 23, 2016

Dear Senator Lesil McGuire,
Representative Gabrielle LeDoux,
and Members of the Legislature:

I am in full support of HB289/SB168. This bill will make positive restructuring changes to the Board of Barbers and Hairdressers.

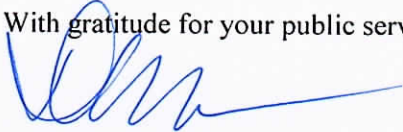
I am the Public Member on the Board of Barbers and Hairdressers for the state of Alaska, and I have served in this capacity for 3 years. Our board consists of 6 members: 1 Hairdresser and 1 Hairdresser/Esthetician combo (representing 2,271 Hairdressers and 542 Estheticians), 1 Body Piercer/Tattoo Artist/Permanent Cosmetic Colorist (representing 147 total licensees), 2 Barbers (representing 151 total licensees), and 1 Public Member. Our board also governs the Nail Technicians/Manicurist (representing 962 licensees), which has no current Board seat.

In 2015, the Alaska Legislature passed a law requiring manicurists to receive an education and pass a state examination before receiving a professional state license. With nearly 1,000 licensed Manicurists/Nail Technicians, it is now imperative that this profession be represented on the Board of Barbers and Hairdressers. Adding a Nail Technician will provide a very large group of licensees to have a voice in things concerning their industry. Adding another board member will also give the Board an odd number of voters – essential for breaking ties. HB289/SB168 addresses this need and creates a Board seat for Alaska's nail technicians.

HB289/SB168 also addresses the over-representation of the barbering industry currently on the Board. When the statute was written to require 2 barbers on the Board of Barbers and Hairdressers, Alaska had approximately 1,200 licensed barbers. That number is now at 151. Having 2 dedicated Board seats to barbering creates a disproportionate number of voting barbers. This bill changes 1 of the Barber seats to be any licensee governed by the Board of Barbers and Hairdressers – be it a barber, nail technician, esthetician, hair dresser, body piercer, tattoo artist or permanent cosmetic colorist. Making this change does not remove one of the existing Board seats – no one currently on the Board will lose their position. It simply provides for a larger pool of recruitment options when a seat is vacant. I believe this is best practice for the Board.

I recognize that this is a time of major financial cuts within the state, so I am very pleased that **this bill holds a zero GF fiscal note and will cost the state of Alaska nothing.**

With gratitude for your public service,



Jeannine Jabaay
Public Member, BOARD OF BARBERS AND HAIRDRESSERS