

April 10, 2017

Dear Legislators of Alaska,

In 2015 the HB 131 was introduced and passed by the legislator allowing for changes to the *Nail Technician Licensure* adding a 250 hour education component along with a written examination. At that testimony indicated the board intended a grandfathering clause would exist for those manicurist licensed prior to December 31, 2015. The grandfathering was to allow those manicurist to take the written exam, in their native language, and once passed would meet the new licensing changes. The manicurists were to be allowed two renewal cycles to pass the exam, making the due date of examination August 31, 2019.

HB 131 passed however, there was no grandfathering clause. The manicurists received notification in February of 2017 that they must pass an examination by August 2017 and in addition take a 250 hour course. The course is only offered in three locations in the State of Alaska, none of which are accredited, and one is owned by Glenda Ledford, the board chairman at that time. This appears to have been a very inappropriate use of her power as a chairman, whereby she stood to have a significant financial gain.

HB 222 is to correct the statute adding the “grandfather” clause. HB222 will allow current manicurist whom have been working in the field prior to December 2015 not be unduly burdened with an expensive \$3,000 course after already showing competency by passing the written examination.

In addition it would be beneficial to all and in spirit of the original statute extend the examination deadline to the original August 2019.

This law impacts over 1,200 manicurists in the State of Alaska. I ask that you join me in supporting this group of people and **vote for HB222**.

Sincerely,

Beverly J. Harper, LCSW