



February 26, 2025

TO: Senate Workforce Development Committee

CC: Representatives Jonathan Warrey, Jorin Johnson, Mitch Ostlie, Landon Bahl, Collette Brown, Josh Christy, Lisa Finlet-Deville, Karen Grindberg, Jim Kasper, Ben Koppleman, Dan Ruby, Mike Schatz, Austen Schauer, and Daniel R. Vollmer

RE: Comments on House Bill 1126

POSITION: **SUPPORT**

VIA EMAIL

Associated Skin Care Professionals, Associated Hair Professionals, and Associated Nail Professionals (the Associations) provide liability insurance, business resources, publications, and legislative and regulatory advocacy for more than 48,000 members nationwide.

The Associations support [House Bill 1126](#) (HB 1126), which would create an advanced esthetics license category and amend the definition of esthetics, allowing licensed professionals to offer additional services and advance the esthetics profession in North Dakota. Too often, laws are not updated fast enough to keep pace with the evolving nature of the esthetics industry. **The Associations applaud HB 1126 for modernizing the North Dakota Century Code to incorporate in-demand services for estheticians and the proposed advanced esthetician.**

It is vital to differentiate your service menu in a competitive market. Allowing cosmetologists and estheticians to apply for an advanced esthetics license would acknowledge their training, skill, and years of practice. Such a license would allow qualified licensees to advertise and provide popular advanced esthetics services, including advanced medical peels, microneedling, and nonablative devices. Per the bill, proof of approved additional training and certification would have to be submitted to the state board of cosmetology before practicing such services on the public. The Associations believe the bill provides suitable guardrails to protect the public and ensure consumers receive safe services from trained and experienced practitioners.

The Associations are confident that North Dakota licensed cosmetologists and estheticians are competent and capable of meeting the rigorous advanced esthetician license grandparenting requirements. Cosmetologists and estheticians in the state must complete a robust educational program of 1,500 hours and 600 hours, respectively, from an approved school and pass an examination that covers both practical skills and theoretical knowledge. **This educational background prepares and primes licensed cosmetologists and estheticians to effectively combine advanced esthetics services with other complementary treatments and products.**

HB 1126 also redefines “esthetics,” offering clarity to what “skin care” means. In doing so, the bill will broaden the scope of esthetics and permit licensed estheticians to provide microdermabrasion, dermaplaning, high frequency, and cosmetic peels (with appropriate acid concentrations). The services mentioned will positively impact a skin care professional’s bottom line, elevate the esthetics industry, and align North Dakota with more states and their esthetics regulations **Estheticians are allowed to perform microdermabrasion in 30 states, dermaplaning in 19, high frequency in 10, and cosmetic peels in 36.**

The Associations are pleased HB 1126 would increase the state board of cosmetology’s membership from five members to seven. Of the seven members, three could be a licensed cosmetologist, esthetician, advanced esthetician, and/or manicurist. This revision would bring representation to the board and ensure voices and viewpoints from individuals who hold different licensing credentials would be heard and considered. **A board that regulates multiple professions must have delegates from more than one profession.** This amendment is a progressive step forward.

In conclusion, the Associations fully support HB 1126 and its effort to create an advanced esthetics license, broaden the esthetics scope of practice, and increase board membership. **HB 1126 would validate professional skills and expertise; lead to better, more profitable job opportunities; and improve board representation.** We encourage you to vote yes on HB 1126.

Please contact me at lpuryear@pac.com if you have comments or questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Laura Puryear". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Laura Puryear, Director of Government Relations
Associated Skin Care Professionals
Associated Hair Professionals
Associated Nail Profession