



January 22 2024

TO: Senators Feldman, Kagan, Augustine, Brooks Sr., Carozza, Gallion, Hester, Simonaire, Washington, Watson, and Young

CC: Senators Gile, Beidle, Klausmeier, and Smith

RE: ASCP/AHP/ANP Comments on Senate Bill 27

POSITION: Support for SB 27

VIA EMAIL

Associated Skin Care Professionals, Associated Hair Professionals, and Associated Nail Professionals (the Associations) provide professional liability insurance, business resources, professional publications, and legislative and regulatory advocacy for more than 44,000 members nationwide.

The Associations are in support of [Senate Bill 27](#) (SB 27) regarding the Cosmetology Licensure Compact (Compact) for many reasons. The Associations believe SB 27 is ultimately a benefit to licensed cosmetologists because it will allow practitioners to gain employment easier and faster in other compact states.

The Compact is a vastly superior alternative to onerous licensure-by-endorsement processes. It also has the potential to support military families as they move around the country. In addition, the Compact will benefit Maryland's bottom line with potential increased taxable income. It will also assist the Maryland Department of Labor by enhancing public safety, reducing application processing time, and expanding cooperation among state regulatory boards.

The Compact bill language was carefully drafted to ensure that licensed cosmetologists will be properly educated and vetted. Once at least seven states pass the bill and the Cosmetology Compact Commission drafts rules, cosmetologists in participating states will be able to obtain a multistate license, so long as they have no encumbrances against their license in their home state.

The Associations also applaud the Compact's regard for public safety. Participating states will need established processes to investigate and prosecute complaints. Participating states will also require students to pass a cosmetology examination; require licensees to satisfy educational and training requirements; and will develop rules regarding required criminal history, disciplinary history, and background checks.

In conclusion, the Associations fully support the Compact's efforts to increase the mobility of lawfully practicing cosmetologists in compact-participating states and encourage you to vote yes on SB 27.

Please contact me at lhostetter@pac.company if you have comments or questions.

Sincerely,

Lance Hostetter, Government Relations Director
Associated Skin Care Professionals
Associated Hair Professionals
Associated Nail Professionals