This bill requires the State Board of Barbers and State Board of Cosmetologists, by December 31, 2023, to (1) review the education and training requirements to qualify for a license to practice barbering and a license to practice cosmetology at each level; (2) identify any requirements that are duplicative or excessively onerous to an individual seeking to meet the required qualifications; and (3) adopt regulations. The regulations should facilitate obtaining both a license to practice barbering and a license to practice cosmetology without creating an undue burden or cost to the individual seeking the licenses or require the individual to fulfill unnecessarily duplicative or onerous education and training requirements. The bill takes effect June 1, 2022.

Fiscal Summary

**State Effect:** The State Board of Barbers and State Board of Cosmetologists can conduct the required reviews and adopt any regulatory changes with existing budgeted resources. Revenues are not affected.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** None.
Analysis

Current Law:

*State Board of Barbers*

The State Board of Barbers issues barber and barber-stylist (limited) licenses. The barber license encompasses the full scope of barbering, while the barber-stylist license applies solely to the hair portion of barbering. The board also registers apprentices. Applicants for licensure must pass a written and a practical exam and meet specified experience (apprenticeship) or education (1,200 hours of instruction at an approved barber school for a barber license) requirements. A registered apprentice must complete at least 2,250 hours of supervised work as an apprentice within two years prior to applying for a license.

*State Board of Cosmetologists*

The State Board of Cosmetologists issues two full-service licenses (cosmetologist and senior cosmetologist) and four limited licenses (hairstylist, blow-drying, nail technician, and esthetician). A cosmetologist or senior cosmetologist license authorizes the licensee to provide hair, nail, and esthetic services. The other licenses authorize the licensee to provide just that service. The board also registers apprentices. Applicants for licensure must pass a written and a practical examination and have successfully completed either a registered apprenticeship program or 1,500 hours of training at an approved cosmetology school.

A licensed barber seeking a cosmetology license may be credited with one-half of the training requirement for a cosmetology license; the same is true for a licensed cosmetologist seeking a barber license.

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**Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Designated Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Maryland Higher Education Commission; Maryland Department of Labor; Department of Legislative Services