

SUBJECT: Creating a cosmetology licensure compact

COMMITTEE: Licensing & Administrative Procedures — favorable, without amendment

VOTE: 10 ayes — K. King, Walle, Goldman, Harless, Hernandez, Herrero, T. King, Patterson, Schaefer, Shaheen

0 nays

1 absent — S. Thompson

WITNESSES: For — Leslie Roste, FBIC; Gordon Logan, Future of Beauty Industry Coalition; Virginia Simonson, Texas Council of Chapters Military Officers Association of America

Against — None

On — Isabel Eliassen, The Council of State Governments (*Registered, but did not testify*; Christina Kaiser, Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation)

BACKGROUND: Concerns have been raised that the inability for individuals to utilize their cosmetology licenses across states can be burdensome for military spouses who are highly mobile.

DIGEST: HB 4857 would create a cosmetology licensure compact to facilitate the interstate practice and regulation of cosmetology with the goal of improving public access to, and the safety of, cosmetology services and reducing unnecessary burdens related to cosmetology licensure. The member states would seek to establish a regulatory framework which would form a new multistate licensing program. Through this new licensing program, the member states would seek to provide increased value and mobility to licensed cosmetologists in member states, while ensuring the provision of safe, effective, and reliable services to the public.

Objectives of the compact would include providing opportunities for interstate practice, enhancing public health and safety, preventing fraud and unlicensed activity, supporting relocating military members and their spouses, facilitating the exchange of information between member states related to licensure, investigation, and discipline within the practice, providing for meaningful dispute resolution and accountability of licensees, and addressing a shortage of workers, among other provisions.

The compact would include relevant definitions, member state requirements, details about the multistate license program, requirements for a data system, and oversight, dispute resolution, and enforcement mechanisms.

Active duty military personnel or their spouses who participated in the compact would be required to designate the home state where the individual had a current license. That individual could retain their home state designation during any period of service when the individual was on active duty assignment.

CSHB 4857 would establish the Cosmetology Licensure Compact Commission CLCC whose membership would consist of all member states that enacted the compact. The commission would not impact the authority of member states to regulate cosmetology licenses within their states.

NOTES:

According to the Legislative Budget Board, the fiscal implications of the bill cannot be determined due to the uncertainty of when the state would become a member of the Cosmetology Compact Commission and the extent to which license fees would increase with compact membership.