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Board of Registration of Cosmetology
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REQUEST FOR OPINIONS

TO: Stakeholders in the Massachusetts Cosmetology Industry

FROM: Helen Peveri, Executive Director, Massachusetts Board of Registration of Cosmetology

DATE: August 1, 2013

RE: Request for Opinions regarding certain policy issues before the Massachusetts Board of Registration of Cosmetology

At the request of the Chairman, I am writing you this letter on behalf of the Massachusetts Board of Registration of Cosmetology (“Board”) to seek your opinions with regards to certain policy issues being reviewed by the Board. As you may be aware, late last year the Board voted to commence the formal process of amending its regulations. As it proceeds with this process, the Board has identified a few policy matters addressed by the regulations which appear to have generated an increased amount of public interest justifying additional review by the Board. The Board has identified you/your group as a stakeholder in the cosmetology industry. Therefore, the Board would like to request your written opinions on the following issues:

1. HOURS OF EDUCATION

• **CURRENT REQUIREMENTS**

The Board presently approves three education programs for basic licensure: 1000 hours for cosmetology (hair, skin, and nails), 300 hours for aesthetics (skin only), and 100 hours for manicuring (nails only). Under current statutes, these hours are the minimum the Board may approve, thus the Board can increase, but not reduce, those requirements.

• **PROPOSED CHANGE**

1200 hours for cosmetology, 450 hours for aesthetics, and 125 hours for manicuring.

• **REQUEST FOR OPINION**

- Do you support or oppose the increase in hours? Why?
- What curriculum changes, if any, would you make to utilize the educational hours
- If you support an increase in aesthetic or manicuring hours only, do the existing cosmetologist hours (which includes aesthetics and manicuring), include the expanded instruction provided by that increase?

2. DUAL USE OF ROOMS FOR MASSAGE AND COSMETOLOGY SERVICES

- CURRENT REQUIREMENTS

Licensed cosmetology salons can generally only perform cosmetology services. Massage therapists may only provide massage in separate and distinct rooms in the salon where no cosmetology services are performed.

- PROPOSED CHANGE

Require massage therapists practicing in the separate and distinct room within a licensed cosmetology salon to have a facility license issued by the Board of Registration of Massage Therapy.

- REQUEST FOR OPINION

- Should the Board permit massage therapy in areas where cosmetology services are offered?
- May these services be performed simultaneously or should the Board restrict them?
- Should the Board require massage therapists obtain a facility license from the Board of Registration of Massage Therapy?
- Should the Board address areas not licensed by the Board of Registration of Massage Therapy, such as Asian Bodywork?

3. BRANCH CAMPUSES

- CURRENT REQUIREMENTS

Cosmetology schools may only provide instruction at the location identified on their license. Only locations which meet all facility requirements for a school may obtain a license.

- PROPOSED CHANGE

None

- REQUEST FOR OPINION

- Should the Board permit schools to obtain branch locations?
- Should the Board issue a special license for branch locations?
- Should the Board make special restrictions or impose conditions on the use of branch locations?

4. CONCLUSION

Your **written** opinions on the above issues would be greatly appreciated by the Board, further, the more justification for your opinions, the better. Please send your opinions to the Board Office at 1000 Washington Street, 7th Floor, Boston, MA 02118, by **September 1, 2013**. If you have any questions, you can contact the Board office at (617) 727-9940.