

Hairstyling Freedom Act

[August 21, 2020]

100.1 Short Title. This Act shall be known as the “Hairstyling Freedom Act”.

100.2 Purpose. Hairstyling, the washing, drying and styling of hair, is extremely safe. Unlike the practice of cosmetology, hairstyling does not involve cutting, coloring, or chemically treating hair. Hairstyling businesses, which are commonly known as “blow dry bars,” have grown in popularity among consumers in recent years.

Most states require people who perform only hairstyling to obtain a cosmetology license. Licensing hairstyling as cosmetology creates an entry barrier for workers making it unnecessarily difficult for blow dry stylists to earn a living and increasing costs for consumers. By exempting the practice of hairstyling from cosmetology licensing laws, the state can reduce needless barriers to work and encourage entrepreneurship. Hairstyling offers opportunities for entrepreneurship and employment.

100.3 Definitions. For purposes of this Act:

Subdivision 1. Hairstyling. “Hairstyling” means to shampoo, condition, dry, arrange, curl or straighten hair using only mechanical devices, hair sprays and topical agents, such as balms, oils and serums. It also includes the use and styling of hair extensions and wigs. It does not include cutting hair or the application of dyes, bleach, reactive chemicals, keratin treatments, or other preparations to color or alter the structure of hair.

Subdivision 2. Mechanical Devices. “Mechanical devices” means brushes, clips, combs, curlers, curling irons, flat irons, hairpins, rollers, blunt-tipped needles, thread, and hair binders.

100.4 Exemption. Hairstyling is exempt from [state’s cosmetology licensing laws].

100.5 Facility. The facility in which a person provides hairstyling, and no other services requiring licensure by [state’s cosmetology licensing laws], is exempt from the requirement for a cosmetology salon license.

100.6 Effective Date.

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