

House Bill 180

Date: February 7, 2024
Committee: House Economic Matters Committee
Bill Title: State Board of Cosmetologists – Licensing – Eyelash Extensions
Re: **Letter of Support with Amendment**

House Bill 180 authorizes the State Board of Cosmetology under the Maryland Department of Labor to issue a limited license to provide eyelash extension services.

The Board of Cosmetologists supports House Bill 180. The Board feels that this new limited license to provide eyelash extensions will add value to the Cosmetology industry as well as regulate safe practices for this beauty service.

In the current climate of the cosmetology industry, there are many complaints surrounding eyelash extensions and the precision of the service needed in application. Individuals are providing the beauty service without proper training, leaving consumers at risk of eye infection and in some extreme cases, permanent loss of eyesight. It is vital that Maryland takes a position of support to regulate unsafe practices and model a standard of proper and safe application. Sanitary conditions are the #1 complaint type in comparison to unlicensed practices reported to the Board consistently; this legislation will provide the Board jurisdiction to apply disciplinary actions when justified.

The Department would like to request one amendment to the legislation which would allow estheticians to also be licensed and offer this service. See suggested amendment language language attached.

The Department respectfully requests the Committee vote **favorable with amendment** on House Bill 180.

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 3, after line 13 insert:

(o) “Provide esthetic services” means to provide to an individual, for compensation, the service of:

(1) cleansing, exercising, massaging, stimulating, or performing any other similar procedure on the skin or scalp by electrical, mechanical, or any other means;

(2) applying to the face an alcohol, cream, lotion, astringent, or cosmetic preparation; or

(3) removing superfluous hair by the use of a depilatory, tweezers, or wax.

(4) **PROVIDING EYELASH EXTENSION SERVICES**