

Senate Committee on Business and Transportation
Oregon State Capitol
900 Court St. NE
Salem, OR 97301

Apr 5, 2013

This is my testimony submitted to the Committee on Business and Transportation in support of SB 836.

My name is Terri Lodge and I own a company called “Blush Premier Makeup Artists, LLC.” I started my company in 2005 after working as a freelance makeup artist for cosmetic companies such as Estee Lauder. I had worked as a freelance makeup artist for 3 years before seeking professional training from visiting New York and Los Angeles National Makeup Artists and then started pursuing my dream of doing full time makeup artistry for a living.

I worked for 3 years building my resume and getting experience in the industry before I started doing serious makeup artistry for commercial clients such as NIKE, Intel, HP, etc. By 2010, I was working on short films and web series, and by 2011, I was working for network television. At that time I joined IATSE Local 488 Studio Mechanics Union (For Makeup Artists & Hair styling) and have been working consistently on NBC’s Grimm TV show as well as multiple visiting NBC, ESPN, CBS/TBS sports casts and news programs. Furthermore, I have been gainfully employed working as a freelance artist for many commercial companies such as Caterpillar, Fred Meyer, Wacom, Intel, etc. for the last three years full time.

It has recently been brought to my attention that according to Oregon Law, I have to an esthetician’s license in order to work as a freelance makeup artist in the State of Oregon. This confuses me as I called the OHLA when I was starting my company and was told there was an exception to this law if I was working in TV/film. Since I was still employed by Estee Lauder as a contract employee, I was also told that this would serve as a “protection” since makeup artists at stores such as Macy’s, Nordstrom, Sephora, etc. don’t have to have esthetician licenses to do makeup in stores.

Since that time, I have continued to freelance to keep my “auspice” of protection and have only recently discontinued that practice due to lack of time by being booked on real commercial work or network television.

While I understand the need for some form of licensing or criteria for professionals in our industry, I don’t understand why an esthetician’s license is required for makeup. Estheticians receive very little to no training on makeup application in school nor are they trained in specialty makeup skills such as aging, blood/wound effects, wig application, facial hair trimming, grooming, or period makeup. This is all training I have received on my own or from other professionals working in this industry for the last 8 years.

There are a large number of makeup artists and hair stylists in the 488 union and very few of them are actual licensed estheticians. Estheticians do plucking, waxing, and facial work such as pimple popping and laser work. As a makeup artist, I do temporary makeup application and light hair styling. There is a big difference here. There is a difference in skill set and practice.

Makeup artistry for TV/Film, commercial work, catalog work, and special events is a very specialized craft and is an absolute essential department on the set of every production. For example, Alexi Lalas, with ESPN, won't go on camera without having his makeup done and it's in his contract as a non-negotiable. Due to the OHLA interpretation of the Oregon Board of Cosmetology laws in chapter 690 for Cosmetology Professionals, I would be required to have an estheticians license to powder this man's face and spray hair spray on his hair prior to going on camera. This makes no sense to me.

There is a disclaimer that says I may do this work if I'm not compensated for it. I would not be allowed to be paid for doing my job. This makes no sense either.

As a regularly employed makeup artist here in Oregon, I urge you to support the makeup artists here in this state in changing legislation so that we may continue to work in the very field for which we are trained, qualified for, and passionate about rather than be expected to acquire an unnecessary esthetician's license.

Additionally, I endorse a change in legislation that would support artistry to be acknowledged as a stand-alone profession separate from esthetics.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions and/or concerns. I can be reached at (503) 260-2055 or at artists@blushpremier.com.

Sincerely,

J. Terri Lodge
Makeup Artist

Blush Premier Makeup Artists, LLC
18304 Van Fleet Ave
Sandy, OR 97055

503.260.2055

artists@blushpremier.com