



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Testimony in Favor of Senate Bill 836

Chair Doherty members of the committee, thank you for hearing Senate Bill 836 today, for the record my name is Jennifer Williamson and I represent Portland's Westside. I am testifying in support of Senate Bill 836 which creates an exemption from licensure by the Oregon Health Licensing Authority (OHLA) for hair and makeup artists working in film, television or theater production. SB836 will support the growing entertainment industry in Oregon, and encourage job growth in Oregon.

The issue addressed in SB 836 was first brought to myself and Senator Burdick's attention by our constituent Celena Rubin. Celena, who you will hear from in a few minutes, came to us with very real, immediate concerns regarding her and fellow artists ability to operate in their present positions without first obtaining a cosmetology license.

Under the current Board of Cosmetology laws, all Oregon hair and makeup artists are required to have an esthetics license in order to provide their services. However, the extensive hours required to obtain this license do not relate to the specialized training needed to practice hair and makeup artistry in the theatre, television and film industry. Unlike cosmetologists, these professionals do not offer their services to the general public and they work solely on specific contracted projects. Mandating an unnecessary and unrelated licensure prevents professionals like my constituent Celena Rubin and Academy Award winning makeup artist and Oregonian Jeff Dawn, from practicing their crafts in their own state's growing entertainment industry.

Last week's industry day was a true testament to the growing economic impacts that film and television production has here in Oregon. The economic impact of this industry has ripple effects throughout Oregon's economy. Make-up artists are just one piece, albeit very important piece, of this successful industry.