

March 15, 2015

Senator Ginny Burdick
Oregon State Capitol
900 Court St. NE, S-213
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Senator Ginny Burdick:

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, Laura Mercier, YSL, and Chanel. 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. Concurrently, I pursued hair styling training for various certified hair stylists in the industry.

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, TNT's Leverage, and TNT's The Librarian shows, 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.

I helped work on and helped to pass SB 836, which allowed makeup artists to do work for TV/film, stage/theatre, and commercial productions without having to have an esthetician's license. However, since there was no makeup artists present the day the wording was drafted, the hair wording was overlooked and now we are in a similar predicament to where we were 2 years ago. As freelance artists, we are hired to do makeup AND hair. There is rarely a large enough budget, even on large commercial shoots, to hire both a hair and makeup artist so one artist is hired to do both jobs. Doing hair consists of styling the hair, which could mean ponytails, braids, updos, curling, straightening, etc. It never involves cutting or coloring which would require a Beautician's license. We only style.

The current wording states that we may "comb" or "spray" but that is not sufficient to allow us to do our jobs and do so legally within the confines of the law. While the Natural Hair Care Act fills in some of the space, allowing us to do manual styling (braids/weaves/ponytails), it does not cover the curling or straightening of the hair with hot tools. This is a big aspect of most commercial and/or catalog work.

Makeup artistry and hair styling for TV/Film, commercial work, catalog work, and special events are very specialized crafts and are absolute essential departments on the set of every production. With the wording in the law as it is now, I would not be able to be hired to do my job as a MUAH (makeup and hair stylist). If I cannot style hair, I would lose the majority of my existing contracts with my commercial clients and the lion's share of my income. As a single mother of 2 kids, one who is disabled, this would be crippling.

As a regularly employed makeup artist here in Oregon, I urge you to support the makeup artists here in this state in passing the legislation SB 699 so that we may continue to work in the very field for which we are trained, qualified for, and passionate about rather than be limited or unable to work.

Additionally, I endorse a change in legislation that would support artistry to be acknowledged as a stand-alone profession separate from esthetics. I support the makeup artists in our industry in creating a Makeup Artist license.

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

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