



OREGON ASSOCIATION OF LICENSED ELECTROLOGISTS, INC.

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Proposal For a Statute Change To The Title Board of Body Art Practitioners

To Members of the Senate Health Care Committee:

Re. HB 2296

The Oregon Association of Licensed Electrologists is asking for your **vote to pass HB 2296** out of the Senate Health Care Committee. This bill would **change the title** of the “Board of Body Art Practitioners” to the **“Board of Electrologists and Body Art Practitioners”**. An overwhelming majority of Oregon Electrologists attended our spring 2014 seminar and voted unanimously for this change.

An Advisory Council of Electrologists was formed in 1987, followed by inclusion of Tattooists and Permanent Make –Up Artists. As the Piercing Program was added three years ago, and a full Board established, the name “Board of Body Art Practitioners” was given. For reasons of expediting the Piercing Program, we did not press strongly enough at the time for a Board title which better reflects the true make-up of the Board.

Body Artist is not a term Electrologists nationally use to describe ourselves, nor would the average person looking for an Electrologist. The Statue definition for Electrolysis means the process by which hair, with a series of treatments is **permanently removed from the skin** by inserting a needle-conductor into the hair follicle and directing electrical energy toward the hair cell. The word “Electrolysis” is used in generic form in **ORS690.350 – ORS690.430** and refers to modalities of galvanic electrolysis, thermolysis and combinations thereof.

In Electrology we eliminate unwanted hair, but it is **not artistic** in the way the other professions under BAP leave their clients. **We do not add adornment** to the skin. We remove hair that *hormones or heredity may have inappropriately produced*. We cauterize the papilla at the bottom of the hair follicle to permanently remove the hair. We often need to work with Physicians or the medical community to identify the problem, hence achieving our goal. The patient/client’s skin may soften with the elimination of the hair, **but it is not having body art applied**. We provide a different service than the name suggests. After going through a lengthy process to reclaim the appropriate regulatory rules for our profession, **we feel that the name of our profession should be named in the board title because we provide a different service than the name suggests**.

In the best **interest of the public**, we respectfully ask for your **support** to change our Board title to “The Board of Electrologists and Body Artist Practitioners”

Deborah A. Ludwig, CPE
OALE President

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