February 10, 2026

RE: **Comments in Support of SB335**—Cosmetology Licensure Compact

I write in strong support of Senate Bill 335 (SB335), the Cosmetology Licensure Compact (Compact), a license portability initiative drafted to improve professional mobility and expand access to safe cosmetology services across state lines. The cosmetology industry currently faces workforce challenges, including barriers to entry, recruitment and retention challenges, and rising consumer demand. By creating a multistate pathway to practice, the Compact offers a bipartisan solution to reduce red tape and regulatory delays while maintaining high practice standards and public protection.

Associated Hair Professionals (AHP), one of the country's only professional associations dedicated to cosmetology, has advocated for and helped pass the Compact in 10 states. AHP's strong support of the Compact was driven by a necessity to help solve an unfortunate reality: Licensed cosmetologists often encounter lengthy, costly, and unpredictable licensure by endorsement holdups when moving to a new state. Delays can prevent qualified professionals from working and limit economic contributions.

The Compact addresses these challenges by creating a multistate licensing program that allows cosmetologists to practice in member states without obtaining a new license every time they relocate. The Compact language was thoughtfully drafted to ensure consistency and strong consumer protection. By establishing uniform eligibility and practice standards, the Compact reduces confusion for professionals who move or travel for work while ensuring every cosmetologist practicing under the Compact meets the same competency requirements. If Wisconsin adopts the Compact, it will help support professional mobility, particularly for military families, inviting economic growth into the state.

The Compact will also assist the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services by enhancing public safety and improving cooperation among state regulatory boards/agencies. Licensing compacts strengthen communication by allowing state boards to share disciplinary information more efficiently, thereby improving responsiveness and enhancing public protection. They also reduce administrative burdens by creating a predictable process to verify credentials.

If Wisconsin adopts the cosmetology compact, the state will position itself as a strong competitor to attract and retain skilled beauty professionals. By supporting SB335, you show support for streamlined cosmetology mobility without compromising safety. The cosmetology compact will align Wisconsin with licensing compacts proven effective in nursing, physical therapy, and other licensed professions.

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I urge you to vote AYE on SB335, so that Wisconsin may expand economic opportunity, reduce bureaucratic delays, and strengthen the professional and economic landscape for thousands of licensed cosmetologists.

Thank you for your consideration. Please contact me at lpuryear@pac.company for further discussion or questions. More information can be found at https://cosmetologycompact.org/.

Sincerely,

Laura Puryear, Director of Government Relations
Associated Skin Care Professionals