



January 16, 2025

TO: Members of the House Postsecondary Education and Workforce Committee

CC: Representatives Cindy Ryu, Mari Leavitt, and Suzanne Schmidt

RE: ASCP/AHP/ANP Comments on [House Bill 1023](#)

POSITION: **Support**

VIA EMAIL

Associated Skin Care Professionals, Associated Hair Professionals, and Associated Nail Professionals (the Associations) provide professional liability insurance, business resources, professional publications, and legislative and regulatory advocacy for more than 48,000 members nationwide.

The Associations are in support of House Bill 1023 (HB 1023) regarding the Cosmetology Licensure Compact (Compact) for many reasons. The Associations believe HB 1023 is ultimately a benefit to licensed cosmetologists because it will allow practitioners to gain employment easier and faster in other compact states.

The Compact is a vastly superior alternative to onerous licensure-by-endorsement processes. It also has the potential to support military families as they move around the country. In addition, the Compact will benefit Washington's bottom line with potential increased taxable income. It will also assist the Washington State Department of Licensing by enhancing public safety, reducing application processing time, and expanding cooperation among state regulatory boards.

In addition, the Associations also applaud the Compact's regard for public safety. Participating states will need established processes to investigate and prosecute complaints. Participating states will also develop rules regarding criminal and disciplinary history and background checks.

The Compact bill language was carefully drafted to ensure that licensed cosmetologists will be properly educated and vetted. Per the bill language, at least seven states had to pass the bill before the Cosmetology Compact Commission could form and begin the rulemaking process. On June 6, 2024, the Compact became active with Alabama, Arizona, Colorado, Kentucky, Maryland, Tennessee, and Virginia having enacted the bill. Since then, Ohio has enacted the Compact and many states have introduced legislation to become participating states. It is clear states want to assist licensed cosmetologists gain portability freedom through a multistate license, and Washington cosmetologists should be afforded the same opportunity. The more states that join the Compact, the more mobility options become available.

In conclusion, the Associations fully support the Compact's efforts to increase the mobility of lawfully practicing cosmetologists in Compact-participating states and encourage you to vote **yes** on HB 1023. [Learn more about the benefits of the Compact here.](#)

Please contact me at laura@pac.company if you have comments or questions.

Sincerely,

Laura Puryear, Director of Government Relations
Associated Skin Care Professionals
Associated Hair Professionals
Associated Nail Professionals