



126TH SC GENERAL ASSEMBLY - 2025-2026 SESSION

Legislative Update

Cosmetology & Barbering Bills — Current as of March 2026

⚡ ACTIVE LEGISLATIVE SESSION • STAY INFORMED • TAKE ACTION

Why This Matters to You

Several bills currently before the South Carolina General Assembly directly affect cosmetologists, barbers, estheticians, nail technicians, hair braiders, and salon owners. ACSP is monitoring each bill closely. Review the summaries below, track progress at www.scstatehouse.gov, and make your voice heard.

■ Cosmetology Bill ■ Barbering Bill ■ Joint Resolution / Regulatory

Active Legislation

H 4186 Barbers & Cosmetologists — Portable Operations & Express Styling

● In Committee — Medical, Military, Public & Municipal Affairs 📅 Introduced Mar. 20, 2025 👤 Sponsor: Republican (1)

Authorizes **portable cosmetology, esthetics, and nail technician operations** for state-licensed professionals. Sets requirements for permitting and operating portable businesses. Also adds a new exemption for **express styling services** that do not require a license, and updates definitions in both the Cosmetology and Barber Examiners chapters.

📄 [View Full Bill Text](#)

H 3484 Hair Braiders & Makeup Artists — Licensing Exemption

● Referred to Committee — Medical, Military, Public & Municipal Affairs 📅 Introduced Jan. 14, 2025

👤 Reps. McDaniel, Wooten & Spann-Wilder

Revises the definition of **hair braiding** and exempts hair braiders and makeup artists from regulation by both the State Board of Barber Examiners and the State Board of Cosmetology. Repeals the existing hair-braiding practitioner regulation statute (§ 40-7-255). Makeup artistry performed as a standalone service would no longer require a cosmetology or barbering license.

📄 [View Full Bill Text](#)

H 3483 Blow-Dry Styling Services — Licensing Exemption

● Referred to Committee — Medical, Military, Public & Municipal Affairs 📅 Introduced Jan. 14, 2025

👤 Reps. McDaniel & Spann-Wilder

Defines **blow-dry styling** as shampooing, conditioning, drying, arranging, curling, or styling using only mechanical devices and topical agents (balms, oils, serums). This service *excludes* cutting hair or applying chemical treatments. Persons providing only blow-dry styling would be **exempt from licensure** under both the Barber Examiners and Cosmetology boards.

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H 4752 Barbers — Removal of Apprenticeship Requirement

● Engrossed — Referred to Senate Labor, Commerce & Industry Committee 📅 Engrossed Feb. 25, 2026

👤 Sponsors: Republican 4-1

Amends § 40-7-230 to **remove the apprenticeship requirement** for licensure as a barber. This bill has passed the House and is now under review in the Senate Committee on Labor, Commerce and Industry. This could significantly change the pathway to barber licensure in South Carolina.

📄 [View Full Bill Text](#)

S 354 LLR — State Board of Cosmetology Regulation Approval

● Recommitted to Senate Labor, Commerce & Industry Committee 📅 Introduced Feb. 13, 2025 · Updated Mar. 2025

👤 Labor, Commerce & Industry Committee

A Joint Resolution to approve new LLR (Dept. of Labor, Licensing and Regulation) regulations for the **State Board of Cosmetology**, designated as Regulation Document No. 5276. The regulations address: **Practice of Esthetics Generally and Sanitary & Safety Rules for Salons and Schools**. This is a significant regulatory update affecting all licensed esthetics practitioners and salon operators statewide.

📄 [View Full Bill Text](#)

Key Resources



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Association of Cosmetology Salon Professionals (ACSP)®

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