

As of January, 2022 the S165 bill and the identical one introduced in the House (H170) are both technically dead! Soon, the General Assembly will be in the “short” session, which is the second year of the legislative session. With few exceptions, the only bills that can be considered in the short session are ones that cleared the chamber they were introduced in. In the case of S165, it would have had to be approved by the Senate and sent to the House; in the case of H170, it would have had to be approved by the House and sent to the Senate. But neither bill was approved. Although there are exceptions to the requirement for the bill to have crossed over to the other chamber, it seems like the Republican leadership isn’t interested in seeing these bills pass since they were parked in Rules committees. At this point, the bills would have to be reintroduced in 2023 when there’s a new General Assembly sitting.

Recommended steps “unpark the bills” work with the North Carolina Barber Association and any cosmetology association (if there is one) on getting the bill introduced. The North Carolina Barber Association’s website is <https://www.ncbarbae.com/>. The second is to hire a lobbyist, who can help get the bill off the ground.