

MOCRA

Hurdles and Opportunities

The US Congress signed the Modernization of Cosmetics Regulation Act (MOCRA) to improve safety in the cosmetic products industry, including **ALL** tattoo products. However, new regulations may have negative impacts on the tattoo industry such as higher compliance costs, increased prices, and fewer options for customers. This could lead to less innovation, decreased artist participation, and declining business. Careful consideration is necessary to ensure that new regulations do not harm the industry and its customers.

Hurdles:

- The Modernization of Cosmetics Regulation Act (MOCRA) could lead to increased compliance costs for manufacturers, higher prices for tattoo products, and potentially fewer options for customers.
- Small tattooer owned manufacturing businesses may struggle to afford the cost of compliance, potentially leading to business closures.
- Restrictions on certain chemicals and ingredients could ban colors that have been safely used in tattooing for decades, forcing the industry to use compounds that have no proof of long-term efficacy in the tattoo process.
- The increased regulatory burden may discourage innovation in the industry.

Opportunities:

- The Alliance of Professional Tattooists (APT) has formed a pigment committee to respond to the FDA's rule promulgation and to gather information about the historical tattoo industry and potential health conditions of tattoo clients.
- The APT has a seat at the table of the Association of Food and Drug Officials (AFDO) Body Art Committee, providing a platform for constructive collaboration and discussion of tattoo regulations with the FDA.
- The Body Art Regulation Support System is an online platform that facilitates collaboration, communication, and support by APT state representatives.
- Joining the APT, becoming an APT state representative, and participating in the Body Art Regulation Support System can enhance the APT's influential nature and provide quick dissemination of information and swift action for petitions to protect the industry from overregulation or being preyed upon by outside entities.

Call to action:

- Join the Alliance of Professional Tattooists (APT) and encourage others to do the same.
- Sign up as an APT state representative in your area to support local tattoo artists.
- Join the Body Art Regulation Support System and participate in your state's channel for collaboration and support.
- Share social media content created by the APT for further reach.
- Attend the annual APT conference for networking, information dissemination, education, and industry growth.



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