



August X, 2020

RE: Shampoo Certificate legislation

Dear Senator or Assemblywoman _____,

The Salon & Spa Professionals of NYS, the only statewide association representing the interests of cosmetologists, estheticians, makeup artists, barbers and nail technicians, supports legislation proposed in Bills No. S08862 and A6578 which creates a Shampoo Certificate and removes a barrier to meaningful training and employment in our industry.

Salons & spas are handcuffed when it comes to developing new talent to join our workforce. We do not have the ability to offer meaningful internships or apprenticeships to students to get valuable hands-on experience while still completing their state-mandated curriculum to earn a cosmetology license. Currently, one must be fully licensed to perform any function, other than job shadowing or folding towels in a salon or spa.

The answer to this problem is to create a “shampoo certificate” in which a student currently enrolled in a NYS accredited academy, institute or school (public or private) and completes a minimum of 500 hours of the 1000 hours required to take their state exam, would qualify for and enable them to perform shampoo services within a professional salon or spa environment. The proposed certificate would be valid for one year from the date of its issuance during which time the student would need to complete the remaining hours of their curriculum.

The result would get more students into the workforce pipeline sooner, give these students an opportunity to earn income, in their desired industry, while still in school and give them exposure to perform advanced training that is not available in a school setting. At the same time, it gives business owners access to a new workforce stream, which is critically needed at this time.

Similar programs exist in at least 21 other states in the country. I hope you will agree that this is a win for our students, a win for the industry and a win for New York. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Todd Garofano
Executive Director