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AB 360

NV State regulation of
Permanent Cosmetics

April 4, 2005

May 10, 2005

Presented by Mary Arnold-Ronish, CPCP

Good morning, Mr Chairman and members of the Commerce and Labor Committee. My name is Mary Arnold-Ronish. I am testifying in support of AB360.

Permanent Cosmetics means cosmetic tattooing, Micropigmentation, or permanent make up. It includes the application of pigments into the 2nd layer of the skin for the purpose of enhancing or changing the following areas:

Enhancements by more color and definition to---

Eyebrows

Eyeliner

lip liner

full lip color

eye shadow

blush

scar camouflage

skin repigmentation

areola creation and coloration on breast surgery clients

hair simulation

It also includes the lighting or removal to correct one's own work by use of salt or saline

The level of expertise of the technician will determine what procedures they are qualified to perform.

I am a permanent make up artist and a Certified Permanent Cosmetic Professional, (CPCP). I am certified by the Society of Permanent Cosmetic Professionals, (SPCP). I have been a member of the SPCP since 1993, serve on the board of directors of the SPCP, and am the Health and Safety Chairperson. I also serve on the National Certification Committee.

I have been performing permanent cosmetic procedures, or cosmetic tattooing since 1993, following the completion of a six (6) month

apprenticeship in Clark County Nevada. When I first started practicing permanent cosmetics there were only a few people in Clark County doing cosmetic tattooing; now there are many. The industry continues to grow at an unprecedented rate. I continue to see a great deal, (30% of my practice) of bad work or problems with work performed by others in the community. This is devastating to many people who experience poor quality work, from poorly shaped eyebrows to purple lips. With elevation of the standards of practice in this field there will be fewer problems and protect the public in a greater way.

Nationally, more than half of the states are state regulated. Several have pending state regulations, a few require physician supervision and some states don't allow tattooing at all. New Jersey and Ohio require 40-60 hours of training approved by the SPCP or American Academy of Micropigmentation (AAM). Maine and New Jersey also require "board certification" by one of these organizations. There are many different requirements and restrictions from state to state.

I am in favor of AB360 for the following reasons:

1. Even though there is regulation in Clark and Washoe counties Nevada, it isn't standardized. We apparently have no regulation in the rest of the state. By providing standard regulations, state wide, giving the county health districts jurisdiction to license people and facilities we will provide a safer consumer environment. We also have the opportunity to elevate the standard of practice for cosmetic tattooing.
2. With the great interest of permanent cosmetics by both the public and people wanting to make it a career, you have the opportunity and the responsibility to make changes that will reflect the current standards of practice. The SPCP has set industry standards which include the following:
 - * Code of ethics
 - * Standard training curriculum with number of hours
 - * Approved trainers
 - * A National certification exam
 - * Assists states with legislation
 - * Works with the FDA, CDC, and SPCP pigment manufactures
 - * Provides many educational opportunities

* Educates and protects the public

3. As this industry grows there will be more and more problems for the public. What were thought to be adequate regulations in the past, in practice are not adequate at all.

Example: Clark County requires a six (6) month apprenticeship.

Since there are no actual hours in that requirement, trainers and students are not held to a standard of hours. As it is, a one hour a month for six months would satisfy the requirements. This is insufficient training. Washoe County regulates the facility but not the technician. Who knows, the back ground or training a person working there might have. Neither county regulation is adequate. This does not even include the rest of the state of Nevada that apparently has no regulation what so ever.

4. Board certification is available from **at least** two (2) national organizations. They test the entry level knowledge base of someone after their basic education. The SPCP exam tests for knowledge in sanitation and sterilization, color theory, technique, machine and needles, contraindications to doing a procedure and skin anatomy. It was approved by a national testing company to ensure that it was a non-biased, defensible exam. It is readily available through a national testing service throughout the world.

I would be glad to answer any questions, Mr Chairman.