

SB183 INTRODUCED



1 SB183

2 3PSUDZZ-1

3 By Senators Coleman, Coleman-Madison, Figures

4 RFD: Healthcare

5 First Read: 20-Jan-26



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4 SYNOPSIS:

5 Under existing law, hair braiding and hair
6 weaving is considered a practice of cosmetology, and
7 natural hair styling is subject to the licensing and
8 training requirements of the Alabama Board of
9 Cosmetology and Barbering.

10 This bill would remove the hair braiding and
11 hair weaving from the definition of cosmetology.

12 This bill would exempt natural hair styling from
13 regulation by the Alabama Board of Cosmetology and
14 Barbering.

15 This bill would repeal the provisions that
16 provide for applicant qualifications for natural hair
17 stylist examination or licensing.

18 This bill would also make nonsubstantive,
19 technical revisions to update the existing code
20 language to current style.

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23 A BILL

24 TO BE ENTITLED

25 AN ACT

26
27 Relating to the Alabama Board of Cosmetology and
28 Barbering; to amend Sections 34-7B-1 and 34-7B-13, Code of



29 Alabama 1975; to remove braiding and weaving hair from the
30 definition of "cosmetology"; to delete the definition of
31 "natural hair stylist"; to exempt natural hair styling from
32 regulation by the Alabama Board of Cosmetology and Barbering;
33 to repeal Section 34-7B-20, Code of Alabama 1975, providing
34 for applicant qualifications for natural hair stylist
35 examination or licensing; and to make nonsubstantive,
36 technical revisions to update the existing code language to
37 current style.

38 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

39 Section 1. Sections 34-7B-1 and 34-7B-13, Code of
40 Alabama 1975, are amended to read as follows:

41 "§34-7B-1

42 For the purposes of this chapter, the following terms
43 ~~shall~~ have the following meanings:

44 (1) APPRENTICE. Any person engaged in learning the
45 practices defined in this article including, but not limited
46 to, assisting in the performance of any acts of barbering or
47 cosmetology on the general public under the constant and
48 direct supervision of a person who has held a valid current
49 license issued by the board for at least five years, in a shop
50 licensed by the board.

51 (2) BARBERING. The occupation of shaving or trimming
52 the beard, cutting or dressing the hair, giving facial or
53 scalp massages, giving facial or scalp treatment with oils or
54 creams or other preparations made for that purpose, either by
55 hand or by means of mechanical appliances, singeing and
56 shampooing the hair, dyeing the hair, or permanently waving or



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57 straightening the hair of any living or deceased person for
58 compensation, as performed by a Class 2 barber.

59 (3) BOARD. The Alabama Board of Cosmetology and
60 Barbering.

61 (4) CLASS 1 BARBER. A person who only does the
62 following in his or her ordinary course of business: Arranges,
63 cleans, cuts, or singes the hair of any person or massages,
64 cleans, stimulates, exercises, or does similar work on the
65 scalp, face, or neck of any person with the hands, or with
66 mechanical or electrical apparatus or appliance, or by the use
67 of cosmetic preparations, antiseptics, tonics, lotions, or
68 creams. Any one or a combination of the following practices,
69 when done upon the human body above the seventh cervical
70 vertebra for cosmetic purposes and not for the treatment of
71 disease or physical or mental ailments, and when done for
72 payment, directly or indirectly, or without payment for the
73 public generally: Shaving or trimming the beard or trimming
74 the hair.

75 (5) CLASS 2 BARBER. Any person, other than a student or
76 apprentice, who performs barbering on the general public for
77 compensation, and who shall satisfy the qualifications and
78 licensure requirements provided in this chapter for a Class 2
79 barber. For the purposes of this chapter, the term "barber,"
80 standing alone, shall be deemed a reference to a Class 2
81 barber.

82 (6) COSMETOLOGIST. Any person, other than a student or
83 apprentice, who performs cosmetology on the general public for
84 compensation, and who shall satisfy the qualifications and



85 licensure requirements provided in this article for a
86 cosmetologist.

87 (7) COSMETOLOGY. Any of the practices generally
88 recognized as beauty culture, hairdressing, or any other
89 designation engaged in by any person who performs such on the
90 general public for compensation including, but not limited to,
91 cleansing, singeing, cutting, arranging, dressing, curling,
92 ~~braiding,~~ waxing, bleaching, ~~weaving,~~ coloring the hair by
93 hand or mechanical apparatus, the use of creams, lotions, or
94 cosmetic preparations, with or without massage, on the scalp,
95 face, arms, legs, feet, or hands, esthetics practices, nail
96 technology, manicure, pedicure, or desairology.

97 (8) ESTHETICIAN. Any person, other than a student or
98 apprentice, who performs esthetics on the general public for
99 compensation, and who shall satisfy the qualifications and
100 licensure requirements provided in this article for an
101 esthetician.

102 ~~(9)~~ (10) ESTHETICS. The practice of performing acts of
103 skin care including, but not limited to, facials, body waxing,
104 makeup, and general esthetics procedures on the general public
105 for compensation.

106 ~~(10)~~ (11) ESTHETICS/MANICURE. A combination of the
107 practices of esthetics and manicure.

108 ~~(11)~~ (9) ESTHETICIAN/MANICURIST. Any person, other than
109 a student or apprentice, who performs a combination of the
110 practices of esthetics and manicure on the general public for
111 compensation, and who shall satisfy the qualifications and
112 licensure requirements provided in this article for an



113 esthetician/manicurist.

114 (12) INSTRUCTOR. A licensee who teaches in a licensed
115 or registered school of barbering or any branch of cosmetology
116 and completes any applicable requirements for continuing
117 education.

118 (13) LICENSE. A document issued by the board which
119 entitles the holder to practice the profession listed on the
120 document.

121 (14) LICENSEE. Any person holding a license issued
122 pursuant to this article.

123 (15) MANICURE. The practice of beautifying or grooming
124 the fingernails, toenails, adding nail tips, extensions, gels,
125 or massaging the hands, forearms, feet, or lower legs of the
126 general public for compensation.

127 ~~(16)~~ (17) MANICURIST. Any person, other than a student
128 or apprentice, who performs the practice of manicure on the
129 general public for compensation, and who shall satisfy the
130 qualifications and licensure requirements provided in this
131 article for a manicurist.

132 ~~(17)~~ (16) MANICURE/WAXING. A combination of the
133 practices of manicure and waxing.

134 (18) MANICURIST/WAXER. Any person, other than a student
135 or apprentice, who performs a combination of the practices of
136 manicure and waxing on the general public for compensation,
137 and who shall satisfy the qualifications and licensure
138 requirements provided in this article for a manicurist/waxer.

139 (19) NATURAL HAIR STYLING. The practice of cleansing,
140 weaving or interweaving, extending, locking, braiding, or



141 arranging the hair without cutting, coloring, permanent
142 waving, relaxing, removing, or chemical treatments.

143 ~~(20) NATURAL HAIRSTYLIST. Any person, other than a~~
144 ~~student, who performs natural hair styling on the general~~
145 ~~public for compensation, and who shall satisfy the~~
146 ~~qualifications and licensure requirements provided in this~~
147 ~~article for a natural hairstylist.~~

148 ~~(21)~~ (20) SCHOOL. An establishment licensed or
149 registered by the board to teach any or all of the practices
150 of barbering or cosmetology.

151 ~~(22)~~ (21) SHAMPOO ASSISTANT. Any person who is licensed
152 to perform only the practices of shampooing, cleansing, or
153 applying temporary weekly color rinses to the hair of the
154 general public for compensation, and who shall satisfy the
155 qualifications and licensure requirements provided in this
156 article for a shampoo assistant.

157 ~~(23)~~ (22) SHOP. Any place where barbering or cosmetology
158 is practiced including, but not limited to, a mobile salon.
159 Only a properly licensed person, who is not an apprentice or a
160 student, may operate a shop.

161 ~~(24)~~ (23) STUDENT. Any person who is engaged in learning
162 any practice regulated by this article in a school licensed or
163 registered pursuant to this article, and who, as part of the
164 learning process, performs or assists in any practice
165 regulated by this article under the immediate supervision of
166 an instructor who is licensed pursuant to this article.

167 (25) THREADING. The practice of eyebrow removal with
168 the use of a loop made of cotton or any other material.



169 ~~(26)~~ (24) THREADER. Any person engaged in the practice
170 of threading on the general public for compensation, and who
171 shall satisfy the qualifications and licensure requirements
172 provided in this article for a threader."

173 "§34-7B-13

174 This chapter does not apply to any of the following
175 persons, activities, or services:

176 (1) Service in the case of emergency or domestic
177 upheaval, without compensation.

178 (2) Licensed medical professionals operating within the
179 scope of their normal practice.

180 (3) Personnel of the United States ~~armed services~~Armed
181 Services performing their ordinary duties.

182 (4) Any public trade school or other public school or
183 school program under the purview of the State Board of
184 Education or a local board of education.

185 (5) Any person who only occasionally dresses hair and
186 receives no compensation therefor, or does any other act or
187 thing mentioned in this chapter, without holding himself or
188 herself out to the public as a provider of any practices
189 defined in this chapter for compensation.

190 (6) Departments in retail establishments where
191 cosmetics are demonstrated and offered for sale but where no
192 other acts of cosmetology or barbering are performed.

193 (7) The licensees of any county or municipal barber
194 board or commission in existence on August 1, 2013, unless
195 such board or commission elects, by resolution adopted by the
196 governing body of the county or municipality, to come under

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197 the provisions of this chapter.

198 (8) Any person who practices as a Class 1 barber.

199 (9) Any person who practices natural hair styling as
200 defined in Section 34-7B-1, including facilities where only
201 natural hair styling is performed."

202 Section 2. Section 34-7B-20, Code of Alabama 1975,
203 providing for applicant qualifications for natural hair
204 stylist examination or licensing, is repealed.

205 Section 3. This act shall become effective on October
206 1, 2026.