

Dear Corporations Committee,

I am writing to you today in support of House bill H-5833 which provides for the licensure and operation of mobile cosmetology and barber services. As a home care nurse, I have personally witnessed a significant need for these services. There are many elderly, disabled, and homebound residents of our state that require access to supportive services relating to personal care and grooming in their own home. Without access to these services in the home, many are simply unable to travel for a multitude of reasons to obtain these services in salons.

I do want to bring to the attention of the committee the issue of in-home pedicures. Currently Registered Nurses who are board Certified in foot care are prohibited from performing basic routine foot and nail care in private homes in the state of Rhode Island. It is my hope that the Department of Health will support and guide all professions under their umbrella to provide in-home mobile services, while working within their scopes of practice. This would ultimately improve access to basic routine personal care to all residents of our state, including the homebound, elderly and disabled.

Sincerely,

Tina McDonald RN, CFCN
Tiverton, RI