

Steven Sepe

From: Mary Polizzi <rieabymary@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, February 24, 2025 6:17 PM
To: policastrogroup@gmail.com; House Health and Human Services Committee; Rep. Baginski, Jacquelyn M.
Subject: Support for Bill H-5351

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Mary Polizzi, and I am a licensed aesthetician, tattoo artist, and electrologist with over two decades of professional experience in skincare and clinical aesthetics. Since receiving my aesthetics license in 2000, my dedication to skincare has been profoundly shaped by personal experience with my own clinical diagnosis, driving my ongoing passion and commitment to excellence in patient care.

Early in my career, I provided basic aesthetic services to clients in a high end spa setting. I soon found myself limited by transient interactions and an inability to track long-term progress, prompting me to shift toward management roles. I was instrumental in launching and managing two renowned facilities—the MGM Grand's G Spa in Ledyard, CT, and the O Spa at Ocean House in Watch Hill, RI. Although these experiences were professionally rewarding, I felt increasingly removed from direct patient care, which remained my true passion.

In 2010, driven by a desire to blend my aesthetic expertise with a more clinical approach, I accepted a position under Dr. Diane Davidson in Groton, CT. for roughly five years, until Dr. Davidson's retirement. I then honed my skills within a medical dermatology setting, deepening my understanding of patient care, clinical protocols and patient safety standards. I then continued my professional journey at Saybrook Dermatology, where I collaborated closely and effectively with Dr. Michelle Higginson and Dr. Jennifer Gray, further expanding my clinical knowledge and competency. I attained my Electrology license in the state of RI and in fact, lobbied with the state of CT for a year before they would consider reciprocity. I was the first person in the state of CT to attain my Electrology license through an apprenticeship program, opening a door for people to pursue a career in Electrology, a career that has become just about obsolete in the CT due to the restrictions they had on licensure.

Currently, I own my own Electrology practice in CT and also work at Aspire Dermatology in RI.

I am nearing my fourth year at Aspire Dermatology, working directly under the supervision and guidance of Dr. Jason Michaels and other medical providers in the practice.

In every position I have held, I have consistently demonstrated professional competence, clinical aptitude, and an unwavering commitment to patient safety and positive outcomes. My work colleagues whether physicians, physician assistants, or nurse practitioners—have entrusted me with responsibilities appropriate to my extensive skill set, clinical knowledge, and experience. I take pride in my ability to competently and safely execute delegated clinical tasks, always in alignment with the practice's high standards.

While my professional titles reflect specific licensure, my capabilities extend beyond these designations, backed by years of rigorous clinical exposure, ongoing advanced training, and a reputation built on trust and patient satisfaction. I respectfully seek your understanding and confidence in my ability to safely and professionally deliver aesthetic care under appropriate clinical supervision.

In closing, I urge you to recognize the rapid and interconnected growth of the medical and cosmetic industries. If this bill does not pass, it will have far-reaching consequences—not only for local businesses but also for the many highly trained aestheticians who play a critical role in supporting medical facilities and ensuring they operate at full capacity.

The Department of Health should take proactive steps to establish autonomy within a safe medical setting by ensuring that each appropriate licensure includes the necessary certifications. Failing to pass this bill would lead to significant job

losses and the widespread closure of businesses throughout Rhode Island, dealing a severe blow to the cosmetic industry as a whole.

Furthermore, with shortage of medical providers in dermatology, our focus should be on expanding access to care and creating jobs that allow both professionals and patients to thrive. Skilled aestheticians, including myself and my colleagues, have positively impacted countless individuals across Rhode Island. Supporting this bill means supporting patient care, business growth, and the future of a thriving industry.

Sincerely,

Mary Polizzi

Sent from my iPhone