

Date: 2/23/25

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Meg Marie O'Rourke and I am a licensed dietitian and health coach. I am writing in support of companion bill H-5351 that proposes all medical professionals and aesthetic professionals in Rhode Island may work and delegate to the full extent of their scope of practice.

The RIDOH is limiting access to the services I have been receiving from my current aesthetic practitioner. I have been told I will no longer be able to receive fillers, botox, laser hair removal, etc.

I have been under the care of an NP for aesthetics since 2020. The care and quality that I receive from my current spa is outstanding which is why I continue to go back. The environment is clean and comfortable and lacking any sort of judgement. My NP takes the time to listen to exactly what I am looking for, she offers suggestions and recommendations, and she takes the time to educate me and show me all of the options I have. The results I receive after each visit is the reason I continue to go back and also refer friends and family to her. I have been receiving aesthetic care for almost 5 years.

With the RIDOH trying to limit access, I have issues with knowing I could lose my right in choosing my provider. My NP has years of experience and education and I feel myself (and others) should be able to receive aesthetic care at a medical spa where my NP practices. It is not right to force people to have to drive to neighboring states to seek these services and take these opportunities from local businesses. Aesthetics is a fast growing, profitable industry that can strengthen the RI economy, but current restrictions on the scope of practice will drive it from our state. By implementing these new guidelines it is limiting the growth of aesthetic medicine in our state without increasing safety. In my opinion this bill should not be put into effect.

Sincerely,

Meg Marie O'Rourke