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House Health & Human Services Committee

Rhode Island State House

82 Smith Street

Providence, RI 02903

Dear Members of the Committee,

I am writing to express my strong support for House Bill 5351, which will have a direct impact on my profession as a licensed esthetician in Rhode Island. This bill is crucial in ensuring client safety while also preserving the ability of estheticians to perform services within our scope of practice, services that we have been thoroughly trained and licensed to provide.

As an esthetician, I have completed extensive education and hands-on training to perform treatments such as chemical peels, microneedling, and dermaplaning safely and effectively. These treatments are essential to my profession, and my clients rely on them to maintain their skin health and confidence. House Bill 5351 provides necessary clarity by distinguishing between medical aesthetic procedures requiring physician oversight and non-medical services that fall within the scope of esthetics.

Supporting this bill is vital because:

1. **It prioritizes client safety** – By ensuring that medical aesthetic procedures are performed by qualified medical professionals while allowing trained estheticians to continue practicing within our expertise, this bill establishes clear guidelines that protect consumers.
2. **It safeguards professional integrity and career stability** – Estheticians undergo rigorous training and licensure requirements to perform these treatments safely. Limiting our ability to offer services we are trained for would not only undermine our profession but also create unnecessary barriers to career growth.
3. **It supports small businesses and the local economy** – Many estheticians work independently or as part of small businesses that depend on these services. Restricting our ability to practice would impact not just our livelihoods but also the broader beauty and wellness industry in Rhode Island.

Estheticians in Rhode Island complete extensive training and follow strict regulations to ensure the highest standards of care. House Bill 5351 recognizes our expertise while maintaining appropriate safety measures for procedures that do require medical supervision.

I urge you to support this bill to ensure that estheticians can continue practicing within our scope while upholding safety and professionalism in the industry. Thank you for your time and for considering the voices of licensed estheticians in Rhode Island.

Sincerely,

Valerie Ruano