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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2025

AN ACT

RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- BARBERS, HAIRDRESSERS, COSMETICIANS, MANICURISTS AND ESTHETICIANS

Introduced By: Representatives Shallcross Smith, Boylan, and Alzate

Date Introduced: February 28, 2025

Referred To: House Corporations

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 5-10-23 of the General Laws in Chapter 5-10 entitled "Barbers,

Hairdressers, Cosmeticians, Manicurists and Estheticians" is hereby amended to read as follows:

5-10-23. Fixed place of business.

- (a) Except as provided in this section, manicuring, esthetics, barbering and/or hairdressing and cosmetic therapy, as defined in this chapter, shall be practiced only in a shop licensed under § 5-10-15. Nothing contained in this chapter shall be construed to prohibit the practice of barbering, manicuring, and hairdressing and cosmetic therapy and esthetics in the same shop or place of business.
- (b) Nothing in this section shall restrict a hairdresser licensed pursuant to this chapter, operating in a licensed nursing service agency, from providing services to an individual who is homebound at their home. For purposes of this section, "homebound" is defined as any person who is considered housebound for purpose of federal Medicare eligibility.
- (c) Nothing in this section shall restrict any person licensed pursuant to this chapter from providing services to an individual who is homebound, or has special needs or sensory-related disorders or differences, at their home as verified by a licensed healthcare professional.
- (d) Nothing in this section shall restrict or prohibit any person licensed pursuant to this chapter from providing services to an individual residing in any Department of Housing and Urban Development (H.U.D.) recognized housing for the elderly in the H.U.D. recognized housing in

- 1 which the individual resides. Those services shall be provided in a separate room inspected by the
- 2 department of health. Students enrolled in programs of hairdressing, barbering and/or cosmetology
- 3 are prohibited in H.U.D. recognized housing.
- 4 (e) Nothing in this section shall restrict or prohibit any person licensed pursuant to this
- 5 chapter from providing services to an individual outside a licensed shop as part of a special occasion
- 6 event, such as a wedding or prom, so long as those services are limited to hair styling and makeup,
- 7 and the health and sanitation standards expected of licensees in licensed shops are followed.
- 8 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION

BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

OF

AN ACT

RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- BARBERS, HAIRDRESSERS, COSMETICIANS, MANICURISTS AND ESTHETICIANS

This act would allow providers of services under this section to visit the houses of individuals with special needs or sensory-related disorders or differences in order to provide haircuts or hairdressing services.

This act would take effect upon passage.

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