

Nevada Assembly Committee on Commerce and Labor
Testimony in Support of Assembly Bill 225

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My name is Gabriel Herrera and I am asking for your support of AB 225.

I am grateful to have the opportunity today to share how the current barber laws and regulations impact those I am responsible for, those I have personally encountered, and myself both professionally and personally.

My wife and I own and operate 2 franchise barbershops in Las Vegas. My daughter is a registered barber and licensed cosmetologist whose journey we personally witnessed because we, thank God, had the means to pay for it. After over \$17,000, 11 months school, and working for 18 months, she learned her passion was cutting men's hair. She asked us to help her pursue barbering because for cosmetologists to crossover to attend barber school, it costs \$5,000 for over 10 weeks full time. AND she had to sacrifice her full time income in the salon. Luckily for her, my wife and I have always supported and encouraged our children to pursue their passion.

I've encountered cosmetologists who have been cutting men's hair professionally for 20 years I can't hire.

Not many folks are in a position to give up or severely impact their financial situation for almost 3 months. I have had several licensed barbers making a living out of state that I've begrudgingly turned away because they have been barbering less than 5 years. Some of those are told they have to attend barber school to make up hours their state did not require.

I myself have forgone the notion of pursuing a barber license due to the current requirements. Having several years in the Marine Corps cutting hair for myself, friends, my 3 sons, and nephews, I considered it a passion worth pursuing as a second career after a rewarding career I retired from in Datacenter.

In my past I have been able to explain the spirit of the law to my employees and felt comfortable educating others on why they are for the greater good. Unfortunately, because I can't justify the current laws in my own head, I find myself in the dreaded position to tell others, "Sorry... It's just the way it is".

But it doesn't need to be this way. AB 225 is a huge step towards solving these problems. For these reasons, I ask you to support this bill.