



Society of Virginia Skincare Specialists

2600 Potters Road • Virginia Beach, VA 23452 • Telephone 757.431.4526 • Facsimile 757.431.4527

July 26, 2007

Virginia Board of Barbers and Cosmetologists  
3600 West Broad Street  
Richmond, VA 23230-4917

Dear Board Members,

I am writing on behalf of the Society of Virginia Skincare Specialists regarding the proposed regulations that will define the professions of Esthetician and Master Esthetician in the Commonwealth of Virginia. When HB 2510 was originally crafted and eventually passed, all aspects of practicing esthetics, technology, products, education, and especially the safety for citizens of, and visitors to, Virginia were considered. Many industry experts from across the state and the nation were asked for input to ensure a progressive, yet realistic standard.

It was evident from the beginning that education was key. In comparison to a Cosmetologist, who is required to successfully complete a minimum of 1500 hours of education, the proposed 600 hour requirement for basic esthetics and additional 600 hours for Master Esthetician is not only conservative, but considering the practical training necessary, a bare minimum that should be readily accepted by the state.

It has come to the attention of the Society that a few individuals in other departments might not completely understand the full spectrum of services that are being performed under this licensure. The Board can be assured that every organization interested in the licensing was allowed to voice both their views and requests (which were accommodated) to satisfy all of the complementary professions. In addition, the Delegates, Senators and various committees responsible for investigating HB 2510 did so vigorously. The Society of Virginia Skincare Specialists, along with many others, attended these meetings, when appropriate, to answer questions or address concerns regarding the licensing.

When HB 2510 reached the voting floor it was passed by a majority in both the House and Senate – evident to the elected officials of Virginia that this was a wise decision for the state. The requirements were fully discussed and the Board has executed the codes set by the passing of HB 2510 in the most appropriate manner. The Society commends the Board of Barbers and Cosmetologists for their professional interest and expertise in proposing the mandatory hours of education. This measure will go far to assure safe treatments for consumers in Virginia.

Sincerely,

Kim Thumel  
Executive Director  
Society of Virginia Skincare Specialists

We, the undersigned, agree with and support the Society of Virginia Skincare Specialists in their effort to properly ensure the adequate training and education requirement for basic esthetics (600 hours) and for Master Esthetician (an additional 600 hours) in the Commonwealth of Virginia.