

SENATE, No. 2183

AN ACT CREATING A LICENSE TO PRACTICE NATURAL HAIR CULTIVATION

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled,
And by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1 SECTION 1.

2 Whereas, the deferred operation of this act would tend to defeat its purpose which is to
3 provide forthwith for the licensing of natural hair care culturists, therefore it is hereby declared
4 to be an emergency law, necessary for the immediate preservation of the public welfare.

5 Section 87F of chapter 112 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2000 Official Edition, is
6 hereby amended by inserting after the word "artistry", in line 28, the following words:- or
7 braiding and natural hair care.

8 SECTION 2. Said section 87F of said chapter 112, as so appearing, is hereby further amended
9 by adding the following definition:-

10 "Natural hair care culturist", a person who uses techniques that result in tension on hair
11 strands such as twisting, wrapping, weaving, extending, locking and braiding, either by hand or
12 mechanical appliances, but not including the application of dyes, reactive chemicals and other
13 preparations that alter the color or that straighten, curl or alter the structure of the hair.

14 "Natural hair care technique", any of the following services offered solely for the
15 development or improvement of physical qualities of the natural hair structure: intertwining in a
16 systematic motion to create patterns in a 3-dimensional form; inversion or outversion flat

17 against the scalp along the part of a straight or curved row; and extension with natural or
18 synthetic fibers.

19 SECTION 3. Section 87T of said chapter 112, as so appearing, is hereby amended by
20 inserting after the words "artistry", in line 19, the following words:- or braiding and natural
21 hair care'.

22 SECTION 4. Said chapter 112 is hereby further amended by inserting after section
23 87DDDD the following section:-

24 Section 87EEEE. The department of public health shall issue licenses to practice natural
25 hair care cultivation to an individual who fulfills all of the following: (a) has passed an
26 examination, if available, prescribed by the department and the board; provided, however, that if
27 no examination is available, the department shall evaluate the experience of an applicant, which
28 experience shall include at least 6 months of field practice or experience; (b) is at least 17 years
29 of age; (c) has an education equivalent to the completion of the ninth grade; and (d) has training
30 of not less than 400 hours extending over a period of at least 3 months in a school of
31 cosmetology approved by the department where services relating to natural hair cultivation are
32 rendered or has served at least 6 months as an apprentice in a licensed cosmetology
33 establishment in which natural hair cultivation is practiced.

34 Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, an individual may not engage in
35 natural hair cultivation for compensation or operate an establishment where natural hair
36 cultivation only is practiced without having first obtained an individual or establishment license
37 under this article.

