

**Health and Human Services Committee**

**LB 705**

**January 17, 2017**

**Thomas L. Williams, MD Chief Medical Officer**

**Director, Division of Public Health**

**Department of Health and Human Services**

Good afternoon, Senator Riepe, and members of the Health and Human Services Committee. My name is Thomas Williams (T-H-O-M-A-S W-I-L-L-I-A-M-S) and I am the Director of the Division of Public Health and Chief Medical Officer for the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). I am here to testify in support of LB 705 which was part of LB 343, the Governor's Occupational Licensing Reform Legislation Package during 2017.

Thank you, Senator Kolterman, for introducing this bill to retain the requirement that applicants for an esthetician license must complete a 600-hour training program and to remove the requirement of 600 credits as part of the esthetician training program. The credits were intended to account for various practical services or theory instruction that students would complete as part of their training; however, these credits make up the 600 hours of training. This change eliminates confusion and outdated language but maintains the 600-hour requirement to assure that applicants have appropriate training and education to obtain an esthetician license in Nebraska.

Additionally this bill allows for an individual to be licensed as an esthetic instructor if he or she has a current license as an esthetician and 2 years of experience as an esthetician immediately prior to application as an instructor.

These proposed changes will break down barriers and expand job opportunities for Nebraskans seeking licenses relating to esthetics.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify before you today. I'm happy to answer any questions you may have.