

# SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE

**BILL NO.** Senate Bill 1031

**PRINTER NO.** 1317

**AMOUNT**

See Fiscal Impact

**FUND**

General Fund Restricted Account

**DATE INTRODUCED**

January 8, 2024

**PRIME SPONSOR**

Senator A. Williams

**DESCRIPTION**

Senate Bill 1031 amends the Cosmetology Law to provide for the exemption of natural hair braiding as a licensed practice.

This legislation amends the definition of "cosmetology" to specifically exclude the practice of natural hair braiding and removes the reference to hair braiding from the definition of "limited license". The definition of "natural hair braiding" is amended to include beading, accessorizing and the use of topical products that can be purchased by the general public, such as conditioners, gels, moisturizers, oils, pomades and shampoos. The bill removes the requirement that natural hair braiding only may be practiced in licensed hair salons.

Senate Bill 1031 further amends the Cosmetology Law to require the Cosmetology Board, in consultation with the Department of Health, to develop and promulgate a training video and written materials providing information on standard sanitary practices online. The training shall consist of information about infection control techniques and diseases of the scalp that are appropriate for hair braiding in or outside of a salon setting and other relevant information.

Any and all fees, fines or penalties imposed prior to the effective date of this legislation related to the regulation of natural hair braiding shall be waived. The legislation does not provide the right to a refund of any fees, fines or penalties paid prior to the effective date of the bill.

This act shall take effect immediately.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

According to information provided by the Department of State, Senate Bill 1031 will result in a loss of \$9,000 in biennial fees for the State Board of Cosmetology. The bill will also result in minimal savings related to fewer needed inspections and investigations related to natural hair braiding.