

Mary Nielsen  
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Dear Senate Committee on Education,

I own a licensed esthetics school in Oregon, Spectrum Advanced Aesthetics Institute. I believe in order to elevate the esthetics industry, strict educational standards must be maintained. SB 207 would not do that.

While an esthetics apprenticeship can provide hands-on experience, attending a private career school esthetics program is more beneficial for several key reasons:

1. **Structured Education & Comprehensive Curriculum** – Licensed esthetics programs provide a well-rounded education, covering skin science, anatomy, skin diseases and disorders, chemistry, sanitation, client interaction, and business skills, ensuring students meet licensing requirements. Apprenticeships may lack structure and vary in the depth of knowledge provided, depending on the person who is the mentor.
2. **Access to Certified Instructors** – Esthetics schools employ licensed instructors trained to teach both practical and theoretical aspects of esthetics. Apprenticeships depend on a mentor's availability and teaching ability, which may not be as comprehensive.
3. **Hands-On Practice in a Controlled Setting** – Esthetics schools offer practical training with a variety of skin types and conditions in a supervised environment. In an apprenticeship, hands-on experience may be limited based on the mentor's clientele.
4. **Standardized Training vs. Variable Quality** – Esthetics programs follow state-approved curriculums, ensuring students meet industry standards. The quality of an apprenticeship depends entirely on the mentor, which can lead to inconsistencies in training.
5. **State Board Exam Preparation** – Esthetics programs specifically prepare students for state board exams, providing mock exams and test-taking strategies. Apprenticeships might not focus as much on exam preparation, leaving students underprepared.
6. **Faster Path to Licensure** – Licensed esthetics programs have a clear timeline, allowing students to complete training in a cohesive fashion, and possibly faster than an apprenticeship, which may take longer due to inconsistent scheduling.
7. **Financial Aid & Scholarships** – Many vocational programs qualify for financial aid, grants, or scholarships, making education more accessible. Apprenticeships are typically unpaid and do not offer financial assistance. Apprenticeships may take advantage of marginalized communities.
8. **Networking & Career Opportunities** – Licensed esthetics schools often have industry connections, job placement assistance, and internships, giving students a head start in

their careers. Apprenticeships may not provide the same level of exposure or career support.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), the demand is high for skincare professionals. Reports confirm that by 2030, [cosmetology jobs](#) are expected to grow by 19% and [esthetician jobs](#) are expected to grow by 29%.

Licensed esthetics programs offer a more structured, efficient, and reliable pathway to becoming a licensed esthetician.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mary Nielsen". The script is cursive and elegant, with the first letters of "Mary" and "Nielsen" being capitalized and prominent.

Mary Nielsen