**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 40‑7‑325 SO AS TO PROHIBIT THE DISPLAY OF A BARBER POLE FOR THE PURPOSE OF OFFERING OR IMPLYING TO OFFER BARBER SERVICES TO THE CONSUMING PUBLIC WITHOUT A BARBER LICENSE OR BARBER SHOP LICENSE ISSUED BY THE BOARD OF BARBER EXAMINERS.

Whereas, the practice of barbering serves thousands of South Carolinians daily, with barbers proudly engaging in a trade that traces its roots to ancient times; and

Whereas, universally associated with barbering and barbershops, the striped barber pole serves as a guidepost to members of the public seeking barbering services, and is a commonly recognized symbol of the practice of barbering in American society; and

Whereas, as a service to the public and the practice of barbering, commercial use of the barber pole should be limited to barbershops and by those individuals duly licensed and authorized to engage in the practice of barbering. Now, therefore,

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

SECTION 1. Chapter 7, Title 40 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 40‑7‑325. A person or establishment may not display a barber pole for the purpose or implication of offering barber services to the consuming public without a barber license or barber shop license, respectively, issued pursuant to this chapter.”

SECTION 2. Section 40‑7‑20 of the 1976 Code, as last amended by Act 283 of 2014, is further amended to read:

“Section 40‑7‑20. As used in this chapter:

(1) ‘Barber pole’ means a cylinder or pole with alternating stripes of any combination including red and white, and red, white, and blue, which run diagonally along the length of the cylinder or pole.

(~~1~~2) ‘Practice of barbering’ means any one or a combination of:

(a) shaving or trimming a beard, cutting the hair, or hairstyling;

(b) giving facial or scalp massages or treatments with oils, creams, lotions, or other preparations, either by hand or mechanical appliances;

(c) singeing, shampooing, or dyeing the hair or applying hair tonics or chemicals to wave, relax, straighten, or bleach the hair;

(d) applying cosmetic preparations, antiseptics, powders, oils, clays, and lotions to the scalp, neck, or face;

(e) cutting, shaping, fitting, styling, and servicing hair pieces, toupees, and wigs.

(~~2~~3) ‘Hair braiding’ means the weaving or interweaving of natural human hair for compensation without cutting, coloring, permanent waving, relaxing, removing, or chemical treatment. Hair braiding also includes the use of hair extensions, except when used in public places including, but not limited to, beaches, parks, and sidewalks.”

SECTION 3. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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