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**SENATE BILL NO. 544**

Senate Amendments in [ ] - January 31, 2022

Prefiled January 12, 2022

A *BILL to amend and reenact § 54.1-706 of the Code of Virginia, relating to the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation; training requirement for [ ~~barbers and~~ ] cosmetologists.*

Patron Prior to Engrossment—Senator Marsden

Referred to Committee on General Laws and Technology

**Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:****1. That § 54.1-706 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:****§ 54.1-706. Different requirements for licensure.**

A. The Board shall have the discretion to impose different requirements for licensure for the practice of barbering, cosmetology, nail care, waxing, tattooing, body-piercing, and esthetics.

B. The Board shall issue a license to practice as a master barber in the Commonwealth to:

1. An individual who holds a valid, unexpired license as a barber issued by the Board prior to December 8, 2017; or

2. An applicant who has successfully (i) completed the educational requirements as required by the Board, (ii) completed the experience requirements as required by the Board, and (iii) passed the examination approved by the Board.

C. *The Board shall require completion of no more than 1,000 hours of training in the field for which an applicant for a license to practice [ ~~barbering or~~ ] cosmetology seeks initial licensing.*

ENGROSSED

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