

State Body Art Enacted Legislation

October 2025

Legislatures introduced 135 bills during the 2025 legislative sessions on body art, enacting 32 bills. The bills covered the gambit from acupuncture, cosmetology and barbering, and piercing guns to toxics in cosmetic products.

Of these 135 bills, 32 were enacted during the 2025 sessions. The 32 that passed were in 19 states: Arkansas, Idaho, Iowa, Illinois, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, and Washington.

Arkansas Senate Bill 177

The Arkansas legislature enacted Senate Bill 177 (Act No. 170), which provides that a licensed body artist wanting to study additional fields of body art training may have licensure in additional fields of body art by completing technical and procedural training.

Idaho House Bills 120 and 121

Idaho enacted two bills on body art: House Bills 120 (Chap. No. 75) and 121 (Chap. No. 76). HB 120 relates to the Barber and Cosmetology Services Act and addresses inspections and safety, disinfection, and sanitary requirements for barber and cosmetology establishments, retail cosmetics dealers, and barber and cosmetology schools.

HB 121 also relates to the Barber and Cosmetology Services Act. This law revises provisions for certificates for makeup artists, and provides that certain licensing, certification, and registration provisions shall not apply to persons or businesses performing makeup artistry.

Iowa House Bill 711

Iowa enacted House Bill 711 (Chap. No. 140), which relates to the practice of barbering and cosmetology arts and sciences, including the establishment of training programs, schools of barbering and cosmetology arts and sciences, and courses of study.

Illinois House Bill 3345 and Senate Bill 2495

The Illinois legislature enacted two bills on body art: House Bill 3345 (Public Act 296) and Senate Bill 2495 (Public Act No. 153). HB 3345 repeals the Barber, Cosmetology, Esthetics, Hair Braiding, and Nail Technology Act of 1985, among other issues. SB 2495 also repeals the Barber, Cosmetology, Esthetics, Hair Braiding, and Nail Technology Act. The law makes it unlawful for any person, firm, partnership, limited liability company (LLC), professional LLC, corporation, or professional service corporation to own, operate, or conduct a cosmetology, esthetics, nail technology, hair braiding, or barber school without a license. The bill provides for cosmetology, esthetics, nail technology, braiding, and barber teacher licenses, as well as continuing education.

Kentucky Senate Bill 22

Kentucky enacted Senate Bill 22 (Act No. 68), which provides that no person shall engage in the practice of cosmetology, esthetic practices, or nail technology without the appropriate license. The bill states that it is an immediate and present danger to the health and safety of the public if it is documented and verified that a licensee knowingly employs or uses the services of an unlicensed individual. Further, the bill provides that no person, unless properly licensed, shall operate a mobile barber shop without notifying the Board of Barbering of its location.

Louisiana House Bill 357

In Louisiana, the legislature enacted House Bill 357 (Act No. 227), which requires health insurance issuers, including Medicare provider organizations, to offer health coverage plans that provide hospital, medical, or surgical benefits to cover integrative cancer treatments, including acupuncture, scalp cooling systems, and cryotherapy.

Maine Senate Bills 325 and 731a

Maine passed two bills on body art: Senate Bill 325 (Public Law 339) and 731a (Public Law 257). SB 325 amends the laws governing licensing of certain types of establishments and professions by the Department of Health and Human Services, including tattooing. SB 731a requires training on textured hair for aestheticians, barber hair stylists, cosmetologists, and hair designers.



Nevada Assembly Bill 352

Nevada's Assembly Bill 352 (Chap. No. 420) requires a person who wishes to conduct a cottage cosmetics operation to apply to the State Department of Agriculture for a license. The bill sets forth requirements and fees relating to a cottage cosmetics operation and exempts these operations from certain licensing requirements.

New Jersey Assembly Bill 3414

New Jersey enacted Assembly Bill 3414 (Chap. No. 2025-18), which provides that a junior student in a course of instruction in cosmetology and hairstyling shall be eligible to obtain a shampoo permit if the student submits to the State Board of Cosmetology and Hairstyling satisfactory evidence that the student completed at least a specified number of hours of relevant course instruction and does not have a communicable, contagious, or infectious disease that could reasonably be expected to be transmitted during the course of rendering shampoo and hair rinsing services.

New Mexico House Bill 281

In New Mexico, the legislature passed House Bill 281 (Chap. No. 39), which exempts hair braiding from provisions of the Barbers and Cosmetologists Act. The bill prohibits disciplinary action for hair braiding without being licensed pursuant to the Barbers and Cosmetologists Act. Further, the bill provides that a license shall not be denied for hair braiding without being licensed for barbering, cosmetology, or hairstyling prior to the specified date. The bill also provides that the specified persons are exempt from the provisions of the Barbers and Cosmetologists Act.

North Dakota House Bills 1071, 1314, and 1317

The North Dakota legislature enacted three bills related to body art: House Bills 1071 (Chap. No. 234), 1314 (Chap. No. 382), and 1317 (Chap. No. 383). HB 1071 relates to tattooing, body piercing, branding, subdermal implants, and scarification. The bill provides that a person operating a facility offering tattooing, body piercing, branding, subdermal implant, or scarification services without first obtaining a license issued by the department under this section is guilty of a class B misdemeanor.

HB 1314 relates to mobile barber shop requirements, associated fees, inspection rights, and penalties. The bill provides that each application to open or establish a mobile barbershop and renewal of a mobile barbershop certificate must be accompanied by a certain fee.

HB 1317 relates to barber licensing, continuing education, and fees. The bill provides that an individual may not practice barbering within the state unless the individual is licensed and registered as a barber, restricted barber,



retired barber, or a temporary barber. Further, the bill provides that individuals holding a barber license or a barber instructor license shall complete continuing education.

Oregon House Bill 2143 and Senate Bill 874

The Oregon legislature passed two bills on body art: House Bill 2143 (Chap. No. 00296) and Senate Bill 874 (Chap. No. 00344). HB 2143 relates to the five-needle protocol, defined as the standardized five-needle treatment protocol in which five points on the human outer ear are stimulated with sterile, single-use disposable needles, ear seeds, or ear beads for the purpose of achieving temporary relief from the symptoms of substance use disorder, mental health conditions, or trauma. The bill provides that the State Medical Board may establish a registry of individuals who are qualified to provide the five-needle protocol.

SB 874 defines the term “Oriental Medicine.”

Rhode Island House Bill 5833 and Senate Bill 381

Two bills were enacted in Rhode Island: House Bill 5833 (Public Law No. 2025-056) and Senate Bill 381 (Public Law No. 2025-055). HB 5833 allows providers of services under this section to visit the houses of individuals with special needs or sensory-related disorders or differences to provide haircuts or hairdressing services. SB 381, entitled Home Visits for Certain Individuals of Mobile Salons, allows barbers, hairdressers, cosmeticians, manicurists, and estheticians to visit the houses of individuals with special needs or sensory-related disorders or differences to provide haircuts or hairdressing services.

Tennessee Senate Bills 171 and 497

The Tennessee Legislature enacted two bills: Senate Bills 171 (Chap. No. 19) and 497 (Chap. No. 292). SB 171 provides that each tattoo operator or tattoo artist shall, before receiving a permit to operate a tattoo establishment or to apply a tattoo, complete up to 1 hour of online or in-person training at no cost to the applicant, by a nonprofit organization approved by the State Human Trafficking Advisory Council that focuses on how to recognize the signs of human trafficking, how to respond to those signs, and how to refer a client to resources for victims of human trafficking.

SB 497 provides that to receive a tattoo artist license, a tattoo artist must be trained in the profession of tattooing, including sterilization methods, in a certified shop under a currently licensed tattoo artist. The bill provides that the tattoo artist must provide the tattoo artist's signature on the state's tattoo apprenticeship completion application, signifying that the apprentice tattoo artist has met certain requirements. The bill also provides for out-of-state tattoo artists.



Texas Senate Bill 1804

In Texas, the legislature enacted Senate Bill 1804 (Chap. 503), which relates to restitution and compensation paid to victims of certain offenses for tattoo removal related to the offense.

Utah House Bills 188 and 278, and Senate Bill 330

The Utah legislature passed three bills related to body art: House Bills 188 (Chap. No. 219) and 278 (Chap. No. 236), and Senate Bill 330 (Chap. No. 491). HB 188 moves the registration requirement for a physical therapist using dry needling from an exception to a requirement for licensing. The bill expands the definition of both physical therapy and occupational therapy to include dry needling.

HB 278 amends the licensure requirements for massage therapy. The bill specifies requirements for a criminal background check for an individual performing massage therapy and specifies requirements for a massage establishment to register, including the expiration and renewal of licensure. Further, the bill provides the circumstances under which an individual must perform massage therapy in a registered massage establishment.

SB 330 restructures the licensing standards for the Cosmetology and Associated Professions Licensing Act; creates a scope of practice for professionals regulated by the act; restructures the existing Cosmetology and Associated Professions Licensing Board; restructures license classifications and the qualifications for licensure for professionals; establishes standards for apprenticeship; allows a school to receive curriculum approval from the Division of Professional Licensing; addresses unprofessional conduct.

Vermont House Bill 472

Vermont enacted House Bill 472 (Act No. 58), which requires a school term of training consistent with formal training requirements established by rule that shall include practical demonstrations and theoretical studies in sanitation; sterilization; the use of antiseptics; and the use of appliances, devices, treatments, and preparations relevant to the field of licensure, and training on the care, styling, and treatment of textured hair. For purposes of this subdivision, textured hair is hair that is coiled, curly, or wavy.

Virginia House Bills 2669 and 2680, and Senate Bill 1419

In Virginia, the legislature passed three bills on body art: House Bills 2669 (Chap. No. 102) and 2680 (Chap. No. 308), and Senate Bill 1419 (Chap. No. 322). HB 2669 relates to amending the definitions of cosmetologist and cosmetology. The bill includes administering hair removal treatments and administering basic cleansing facial treatments to enhance or improve the appearance and care of the skin, which only includes a cleanse, tone, and application of a mask or moisturizer.



HB 2680 relates to the regulation of ear-piercers and ear-piercing salons and schools. The bill provides for the licensure of ear-piercing salons, ear-piercing schools, and ear-piercers by the Board of Barbers and Cosmetology. Further, the bill distinguishes ear-piercing from body-piercing by definition and requires the board to adopt regulations establishing the requirements for licensure of ear-piercing salons, ear-piercing schools, and ear-piercers.

SB 1419 also relates to ear piercing. This law relates to the regulation of ear-piercers and ear-piercing salons and schools, and to licensure and training requirements. The bill provides definitions and provides that the Board of Barbers and Cosmetology may develop different classes of ear-piercing licenses. Further, the bill develops specific training and apprenticeship programs for ear-piercers to ensure safety and competency.

Washington House Bills 1640 and 1874

The Washington legislature enacted two bills: House Bills 1640 and 1874. HB 1640 relates to acupuncturists or acupuncture and Eastern medicine practitioners. HB 1874 requires training for cosmetologists, barbers, estheticians, and hair designers on the care, styling, and treatment of textured hair. The bill establishes curricula for the training of students and apprentices under this chapter, including training for cosmetologists, barbers, estheticians, and hair designers on the care, styling, and treatment of textured hair, which must include techniques for cutting, styling, and chemically treating textured hair, among other things.

