

Dear _____
REPRESENTATIVE

I am a licensed Cosmetologist and I am concerned about your decisions and how they are affecting the lives of Cosmetologists in California. I ask for your consideration to get myself and over 620,000 hard-working employees, independent professionals and small business owners back to work.

The option of working outside (to provide only a small percentage of our services) is simply not a reasonable or realistic solution to getting the majority of hairstylists back to work. The financial burden you have placed on our industry is severe and unwarranted. Our track record while we were briefly re-opened shows proof that we are able to operate safely without contributing to the spread of COVID-19.

Here are two examples:

1. Out of a community of 3,000 independent salon owners in California working inside studio suites, only five have tested positive for COVID-19. None of the collective clients were impacted.
2. In a sampling taken by a small group of California salons 7,341 stylists serviced 535,810 clients and in that group 16 COVID-19 infections were tracked, with NOT ONE case traced back to a salon (many were noted as family/friend exposure).

I ask how you can justify shutting down an industry that has an infection rate of .000029% based on polled salons. We are essential to not just the physical well being of our clients but to their mental well being, as well as our own.

I am following a comprehensive plan provided by your California guidelines that includes protocols on cleaning and disinfection, social distancing, temperature taking and mask requirements reflecting CDC, state and local guidance. As a licensed Cosmetologist, I am trained in sanitation and disinfection techniques as required by the State Board of Cosmetology using EPA certified hospital grade disinfectants. I am also committed to effective contact tracing as I keep all client data.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT HOW I AM PERSONALLY IMPACTED

I am asking that, as a business that is not contributing to the spread of COVID-19, we be allowed to remain open as an Essential Business.

Thank you for your support and consideration,

NAME