August 20, 2020

Utah House of Representatives
350 N State St #350
Salt Lake City, UT 84114

Dear Representative,

On behalf of the 13,718 members and supporters of the Council for Citizens Against Government Waste in Utah, I urge you to support HB 6005.

When the coronavirus pandemic first hit, businesses related to cosmetology and associated professions were some of the first to shut down. HB 6005 offers a practical solution to help Utah cosmetology and associated professions sustain their businesses during the pandemic. This bill adjusts the requirements for these fields to clarify that online instruction can be up to 50 percent instead of the original 30 percent as recommended by the Department of Education.

Before March 12, only institutions approved by the U.S. Department of Education (DOE) and the National Accrediting Commission of Career Arts & Sciences (NACCAS) were allowed for the pilot program. HB 6005 will enable barber, cosmetology, electrologist, hair design, and nail technology schools to continue teaching and get students accredited.

This authorization is would expire by December 31, 2020 and the bill has a sunset date of July 1, 2022. While businesses can apply for an extension for distance learning after December 31, we recommend that these measures be made permanent.

If this bill does not pass, cosmetology and associated professions will not be able to continue instruction and students will take longer to graduate.

Other states have already passed measures to enable more access to education for various professions.

I urge you to support HB 6005.

Sincerely,

Tom Schatz