

House Health & Human Services

03/10/2026 Upon Adjournment

HB26-1249 Medical-Aesthetics Corporation Ownership

Typed Text of Testimony Submitted

Name, Position, Representing	Typed Text of Testimony
Anaiza Barrera Messick For themselves	<p>I am writing in strong support of House Bill 26-1249 and its proposal to allow licensed estheticians to hold ownership or shareholder status in medical-esthetics service corporations.</p> <p>As licensed skincare professionals, estheticians receive extensive education, hands-on training, and ongoing certification in advanced skin treatments. We are often the providers working most closely with clients throughout their long-term skin health journeys. However, under current law, estheticians are excluded from meaningful participation in business ownership within the very industry we help sustain and grow.</p> <p>HB 26-1249 represents an important and fair modernization of Colorado’s esthetics industry. Allowing estheticians to own or co-own medical-esthetics businesses creates opportunities for entrepreneurship, economic mobility, and small business growth while maintaining appropriate medical oversight for regulated procedures.</p> <p>This bill would empower experienced professionals to responsibly expand services, create jobs, invest in their communities, and contribute to Colorado’s rapidly growing aesthetics economy. Estheticians understand client safety, treatment protocols, and ethical standards, and ownership inclusion would strengthen collaboration between medical providers and licensed skincare specialists.</p>

	<p>Supporting HB 26-1249 means supporting workforce advancement, small business development, and equitable opportunity within the medical-aesthetics field.</p> <p>I respectfully urge lawmakers to vote in favor of House Bill 26-1249 and support Colorado estheticians in having a rightful seat at the table in the industry we serve every day.</p>
<p>Michelle Helm For themselves</p>	<p>I agree only physicians should be able to own a medical spa. I also think the physician should be present in the building during operating hours</p>
<p>Leisha Richter For themselves</p>	<p>My name is Leisha Richter, and I am a small business owner in Colorado . I am writing in strong support of HB26-1249.</p> <p>This bill represents an important modernization of Colorado law that better reflects how collaborative healthcare and aesthetic practices actually operate today. Medical aesthetics is a team-based environment that includes physicians, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, registered nurses, and licensed estheticians. Each professional brings unique training, skill, and accountability to patient care. Allowing qualified licensed professionals to have ownership opportunities recognizes their expertise and commitment while maintaining appropriate medical oversight.</p> <p>HB26-1249 supports small business growth and professional advancement in Colorado. Many highly trained aesthetic providers dedicate years to building patient relationships, mastering advanced techniques, and contributing significantly to practice success “ yet under current restrictions, they are limited in their ability to build equity in the businesses they help grow. This bill creates a more equitable pathway for experienced professionals to invest in their own futures.</p>

	<p>Importantly, this legislation does not eliminate medical standards or physician oversight. Instead, it aligns ownership structures with modern practice realities while preserving patient safety. Providers would remain bound by their respective licensure laws, scope of practice, and regulatory boards.</p> <p>From a community perspective, this bill encourages entrepreneurship, job creation, and local economic development. Small medical aesthetics practices contribute meaningfully to Colorado’s economy, employ licensed professionals, and provide accessible services to residents.</p> <p>HB26-1249 promotes fairness, innovation, and responsible growth in a rapidly evolving field. I respectfully urge you to vote YES.</p> <p>Thank you for your time and consideration.</p> <p>Sincerely, Leisha Richter Licensed Aesthetican Greeley, CO</p>
<p>Maia Monarrez For herself</p>	<p>I vote for businesses to be able to own Medspas that provide microneedling, laser and such services by estheticians. You’re taking away someone’s living income by not letting estheticians own medspas. As estheticians we are well trained spent hours of learning just to be able to make a living off of microneedling and laser clients.</p>
<p>Monique Tixier Against herself</p>	<p>Hello,</p>

	<p>I am a currently licensed esthetician in Denver. In addition to my esthetics license, I hold a Bachelor’s degree in Biochemistry and have several years of experience in clinical research. I am writing to express my opposition to this bill.</p> <p>The procedures outlined in this legislation are highly invasive and carry significant medical risk. Expanding ownership, operation, and training authority for these services to individuals with only an esthetics license raises serious public health concerns for the state of Colorado. The scope of education and clinical training required for estheticians is not comparable to the level of medical training necessary to safely oversee these procedures.</p> <p>I am particularly concerned about grouping licensed estheticians alongside Physician Assistants and Registered Nurses within this bill. PAs and RNs complete rigorous academic coursework, supervised clinical rotations, and standardized licensing examinations designed specifically to prepare them for medical practice. Esthetics training does not include this level of medical education or clinical oversight.</p> <p>For these reasons, I strongly believe licensed estheticians should not be permitted to own or operate medical spas that provide the medical procedures outlined in this bill. Patient safety and public health must remain the priority.</p> <p>Thank you for your consideration.</p>
<p>Andrea Schneeberger For themselves</p>	<p>I am in support of Estheticians Owning MedSpa</p>

<p>Amanda Rutledge</p> <p>For themselves</p>	<p>My name is Amanda, and I am a licensed cosmetologist and small business owner in Loveland, Colorado. I am writing in support of House Bill 26-1249.</p> <p>Current law limits ownership of medical spas exclusively to physicians. However, many of these businesses are operated day to day by licensed professionals such as estheticians, cosmetologists, nurses, physician assistants, and nurse practitioners. We provide treatments within our legal scope of practice, manage patient care, oversee operations, and ensure compliance yet we are legally prohibited from owning or co-owning the businesses we run.</p> <p>This restriction creates unnecessary barriers to small business ownership and limits economic opportunity, particularly for women owned and locally owned businesses. It also forces artificial ownership structures where a physician must serve as the legal owner, even when they are not the primary operator.</p> <p>This does not increase patient safety it simply adds administrative complexity.</p> <p>House Bill 26-1249 would not expand anyone's scope of practice or eliminate medical oversight. Licensed professionals would still be required to operate within state regulations and collaborate with physicians when medical procedures require it.</p> <p>The bill simply modernizes ownership laws to reflect how aesthetic practices actually function today.</p> <p>Allowing qualified, licensed professionals to own and co-own medical spas promotes fair business opportunity, supports local entrepreneurship, and maintains the same standards of patient safety already in place.</p> <p>I am in full support of House Bill 26-1249,</p>
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	<p>thank you for your time and consideration.</p>
<p>Olivia Cooper Against themselves</p>	<p>To the Members of the Committee,</p> <p>My name is Olivia Cooper. I am a licensed esthetician and certified laser technician in Colorado, and I am writing in strong support of House Bill 26-1249.</p> <p>This bill represents an important step forward for highly trained aesthetic professionals who are already safely and competently performing advanced treatments under medical oversight. Estheticians, nurses, PAs, and NPs receive extensive education and hands-on training in procedures such as laser hair removal, IPL, microneedling, and medical-grade chemical peels. We are the providers delivering these services every day.</p> <p>However, under current law, we are not allowed to own or co-own the very businesses we operate “ even when we carry certifications, liability insurance, and work with medical directors. This limits professional growth, entrepreneurship, and fair business opportunity within our industry.</p> <p>HB26-1249 does not eliminate medical oversight. It modernizes ownership laws to reflect how the aesthetic industry actually functions today. Qualified professionals should have the ability to own and operate medical aesthetic practices while maintaining required medical supervision and compliance standards.</p> <p>Allowing trained non-physician providers to own these businesses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourages small business growth in Colorado • Expands access to aesthetic services, especially in rural communities

	<p>â€¢ Supports women-owned and locally owned businesses</p> <p>â€¢ Reflects the reality that these services are already safely performed by licensed professionals</p> <p>Physician collaboration can and should remain part of the model â€” but ownership restrictions are outdated and unnecessarily restrictive.</p> <p>As a small business owner in Montrose working to build a compliant, ethical, and safe aesthetic practice, I respectfully urge you to vote YES on HB26-1249.</p> <p>Thank you for your time and consideration.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Olivia Cooper</p> <p>Licensed Esthetician & Certified Laser Technician</p> <p>Montrose, Colorado</p>
<p>Marilyn Eastin</p> <p>For</p> <p>themselves</p>	<p>I would like to offer my support for the bill as I feel these people work very hard and need to have the option of owning their businesses.</p> <p>Thank you</p> <p>Marilyn Eastin</p>
<p>Heather M Talbot</p> <p>Amend</p> <p>themselves</p>	<p>I firmly believe aestheticians should be able to open a med spa in the state of colorado with medical supervision, medical director in play.</p>
<p>Beatriz Gallegos</p>	<p>Testimony in Support of HB26-1249</p>

<p>For themselves</p>	<p>To the Members of the Committee,</p> <p>My name is Beatriz Gallegos, and I am a licensed esthetician and small business owner in Colorado. I am writing in strong support of House Bill 26-1249.</p> <p>As estheticians, nurses, cosmetologists, physician assistants, and nurse practitioners, we are highly trained professionals who provide safe, regulated, and in-demand services within the medical aesthetics industry. However, current law prevents us from owning or co-owning medical spa businesses that offer services such as laser treatments, microneedling, injectables, IPL, and medical-grade chemical peels . Even when we are certified, insured, and fully compliant with state regulations.</p> <p>This restriction limits economic opportunity, particularly for women and minority entrepreneurs who are building small businesses in their communities. It forces qualified professionals to operate under ownership structures that do not reflect the reality of who is actually delivering and managing these services.</p> <p>HB26-1249 would create fair and modern business standards that reflect today’s aesthetics industry while maintaining appropriate medical oversight and patient safety.</p> <p>This bill would:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Expand entrepreneurship opportunities• Support small business growth in Colorado• Increase access to qualified providers• Strengthen accountability by aligning ownership with professional responsibility
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	<p>I respectfully ask you to support HB26-1249 and allow licensed, qualified professionals the opportunity to own and grow the businesses they are trained to operate.</p> <p>Thank you for your consideration.</p> <p>Beatriz Gallegos Licensed Esthetician Colorado Resident</p>
<p>Hayley Hammang For themselves</p>	<p>Dear Members of the Committee,</p> <p>My name is Hayley, and I am writing in strong support of House Bill 26-1249.</p> <p>As a licensed esthetician practicing in Colorado, I am directly impacted by the current ownership restrictions placed on medical spas. Under existing law, estheticians, nurses, and other highly trained professionals cannot own or co-own medical spa businesses—even when we are licensed, certified, and fully qualified to perform many of the services offered in these settings.</p> <p>HB26-1249 represents a necessary modernization of Colorado law.</p> <p>Estheticians undergo extensive education in skin science, infection control, anatomy, contraindications, and treatment protocols. Many of us pursue advanced certifications in microneedling, laser safety, chemical peels, and other medical-grade services. Despite this education and hands-on experience,</p>

	<p>we are currently barred from owning the very businesses we are qualified to operate.</p> <p>This restriction does not improve patient safety. Medical procedures such as injectables would still require appropriate medical oversight and licensure under existing scope-of-practice laws. What this bill does is create fair business opportunity while maintaining professional standards and accountability.</p> <p>Allowing estheticians, nurses, PAs, and NPs to own medical spas would:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">â€¢ Encourage responsible entrepreneurship within regulated professionsâ€¢ Promote collaboration among licensed providersâ€¢ Support small business growth in Coloradoâ€¢ Increase access to safe, regulated aesthetic servicesâ€¢ Keep experienced, trained professionals in our state <p>Colorado has always championed innovation and small business development. HB26-1249 aligns with those values by removing outdated ownership barriers while preserving scope-of-practice protections.</p> <p>This bill is not about expanding practice beyond training. It is about allowing qualified professionals to participate fully in the businesses they help build and operate every day.</p> <p>I respectfully urge you to vote YES on HB26-1249.</p>
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	<p>Thank you for your time and consideration.</p>
<p>Katherine Mallory For themselves</p>	<p>In support of HB26’s 1249, I believe this bill provides meaningful benefits not only for estheticians who work under a medical director, but also for Colorado’s economy and its growing aesthetic industry. The bill recognizes the valuable role medical aestheticians play in building and operating advanced treatment businesses, and it finally allows them to hold ownership in the practices they help create and grow.</p> <p>Colorado has long been a pioneering state in medical aesthetics, especially in its trust in the collaborative relationship between estheticians and medical directors under Rule 800. As our industry continues to expand, it is important that our laws evolve to reflect the realities of modern practice and protect the professionals working within it.</p> <p>Currently, many medical directors hold extensive power within med spa environments. If an aesthetician wants to start such a business, they must pay for a medical director to supervise treatments, while also handing over legal ownership unless they have another licensed medical professional willing to serve as the owner. This creates both financial and emotional strain for estheticians who have invested their time, creativity, and expertise into these businesses.</p> <p>Through my experience helping establish contracts between my father’s a DO practicing in Colorado and various medical spas, I’ve witnessed firsthand the fear and vulnerability that owners feel when signing away legal control of their businesses. HB26’s 1249 would help alleviate this concern, allowing estheticians to share in ownership and retain a voice in how their businesses and employees are managed. If ownership disputes were ever brought to court, the bill ensures that estheticians’ rights and assets would be legally protected.</p> <p>Additionally, much of a medical director’s fee structure is based on risk management’s similar to an insurance policy. Factors like the number of providers, depth and type of treatment, and classification of medical devices all impact these fees. When medical directors must also assume full legal ownership, those</p>

	<p>fees understandably increase. By allowing medical aestheticians to share ownership, HB26’s 1249 would reduce this added burden, giving business owners more independence while helping lower the cost of medical directorship.</p>
<p>ERICA ROYBAL For themselves</p>	<p>My name is Erica Roybal, and I am the owner of a licensed medical spa. I am submitting this testimony in support of allowing qualified non-physicians to own medical spas, while continuing to require appropriate physician oversight for medical procedures.</p> <p>Medical spas operate at the intersection of healthcare and small business. While medical directors play an essential clinical role, ownership and clinical oversight are not the same function. Requiring that only medical directors own medical spas restricts entrepreneurship, limits opportunity for skilled operators, and does not inherently improve patient safety.</p> <p>As an owner, my responsibility is to ensure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proper licensing and regulatory compliance • Employment of qualified, credentialed providers • Strict adherence to scope-of-practice laws • Clear medical oversight agreements • Transparent informed consent and safety protocols <p>Patient safety comes from systems, training, and accountability not simply from who holds the business license.</p> <p>Across the country, many states allow non-physician ownership with required physician medical direction. This model balances clinical supervision with responsible business management. In fact, separating ownership from medical direction can strengthen oversight by clearly defining responsibilities and reducing conflicts of interest.</p> <p>Medical directors should provide clinical governance. Owners should provide operational excellence, compliance infrastructure, and community accountability. Both roles are vital but they are not interchangeable.</p> <p>Restricting ownership exclusively to physicians:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limits economic opportunity for women and minority entrepreneurs • Reduces competition and

	<p>innovation” – Raises barriers to entry without clear evidence of increased safety” – Concentrates market control rather than improving patient outcomes</p> <p>I fully support strong regulation, physician supervision, and enforcement against unsafe practices. However, prohibiting qualified non-physicians from owning medical spas is not a patient safety measure – it is a business restriction.</p> <p>Responsible ownership, transparent medical oversight, and clear regulatory standards are the appropriate path forward.</p> <p>I respectfully urge policymakers to protect patient safety while preserving lawful, ethical entrepreneurship within the medical aesthetics industry.</p> <p>Thank you for your consideration.</p> <p>Erica Roybal Dream Medspa LLC Denver, CO</p>
<p>Tanisha Bules For themselves</p>	<p>My daughter is an esthetician who graduated with several certification in the field in February 2025. She went into this field because she has a passion to make people feel beautiful in their own skin. This includes injectables and toxins (Botox and filler). Without being able to run her own business as an esthetician to provide the services of toxins and injectables she would not be fulfilling her life long dream.</p> <p>Please pass the bill to allow esthetician to own and operate medicine spas</p>
<p>Lily Hayford For themselves</p>	<p>People who take the time do go through their own schooling are still highly qualified to be able to own corporations for medical aesthetics. This will give people interested in entrepreneurship along with aesthetics should have the same opportunity as everyone else.</p>
<p>Allison Woodhams For</p>	<p>Physician ownership is not what determines whether a medical spa is safe or properly run. Compliance with state law, scope of</p>

<p>themselves</p>	<p>practice regulations, required medical oversight, and established clinical protocols are what ensure safety.</p> <p>I operate fully within the legal framework of this state. Where physician collaboration or supervision is required, it is structured appropriately and in accordance with the law. My practice follows strict patient screening, informed consent, documentation standards, and emergency protocols.</p> <p>Ownership and clinical oversight are not the same thing. The law permits licensed professionals to own medical spas, and many are safely and successfully nurse-owned. Safety comes from training, regulation, and accountability – all of which are in place in my business.</p> <p>My focus is patient safety and compliance. The structure of ownership does not compromise that.</p>
<p>Cinthia Gomez</p> <p>For</p> <p>themselves</p>	<p>Dear Members of the Committee,</p> <p>My name is Cinthia, and I am an esthetician living in Colorado. I am writing in support of House Bill 26-1249.</p> <p>Before becoming an esthetician, I worked in marketing for several medical spas and aesthetic practices. Through that experience, I developed a deep respect for the aesthetics industry and the positive impact these services can have on people’s confidence, mental well-being, and overall self-care. Inspired by that experience, I decided to pursue my esthetics license so I could help people directly.</p> <p>Currently, Colorado law only allows physicians to own medical spas. While I fully support the importance of physician oversight for medical procedures, the current ownership restrictions create significant barriers for licensed professionals like estheticians,</p>

	<p>nurses, physician assistants, and nurse practitioners who are trained, qualified, and passionate about working in this industry.</p> <p>HB26-1249 would create a fairer and more modern structure that reflects how the aesthetics industry actually operates today. Many highly trained professionals are already performing services in medical spas, yet they are unable to own or co-own the businesses they help build and operate.</p> <p>Allowing licensed professionals to own or co-own these businesses would:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">â€¢ Support small business growth in Coloradoâ€¢ Create more jobs and economic opportunityâ€¢ Encourage ethical and responsible business ownership within the industryâ€¢ Allow skilled professionals to build careers and serve their communities <p>For many estheticians like myself, the dream is to build a small business that provides high-quality skincare services in a safe, professional environment. This bill would open the door for qualified professionals to responsibly pursue entrepreneurship while still maintaining appropriate medical collaboration when needed.</p> <p>In addition, many of us want to create welcoming spaces that prioritize client safety, education, and long-term skin health. Giving professionals the opportunity to own their businesses encourages higher accountability, better service, and stronger connections with the communities we serve.</p>
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	<p>I respectfully urge you to support HB26-1249 and help create fair opportunities for licensed professionals in Colorado’s aesthetics industry.</p> <p>Thank you for your time and consideration.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Cinthia</p>
<p>Mary Waite For themselves</p>	<p>I am a sole Estetician injector. I do not think a Doctor needs to own nor run my business. I understand that they need to oversee our work, but I am fully capable of owning and running my own aesthetics business. Please allow me and the rest of us to own and run our businesses. Thank you.</p>
<p>Kelsie Barnett For themselves</p>	<p>My name is Kelsie, and I am a Colorado small business owner. I have operated my spa since 2020, generating approximately \$70,000 annually while serving my community and creating local economic opportunity.</p> <p>I am here today in support of House Bill 26-1249.</p> <p>Under current law, only physicians can own medical spas. However, many of the professionals who are extensively trained and experienced in aesthetic services – including estheticians, cosmetologists, registered nurses, nurse practitioners, and physician assistants – are prohibited from owning or co-owning the very businesses they help operate and grow.</p> <p>Medical spas today offer services such as injectables, laser treatments, IPL, microneedling, and medical-grade chemical peels. These services are already performed safely and effectively by licensed and highly trained professionals under proper medical oversight. Yet the ownership structure is restricted in a</p>

	<p>way that limits entrepreneurship and disproportionately affects women-led businesses.</p> <p>This bill does not eliminate medical oversight or patient safety standards. Instead, it modernizes business ownership laws to reflect how the industry actually operates today. It allows qualified, licensed professionals the opportunity to own and build businesses in the communities they serve.</p> <p>For entrepreneurs like me, this change would:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> â€¢ Promote small business growth â€¢ Support women-owned businesses â€¢ Increase local job creation â€¢ Keep revenue within Colorado communities â€¢ Create fair and transparent ownership structures <p>Colorado should encourage responsible entrepreneurship, not restrict it unnecessarily. Those of us who are licensed, regulated, and deeply invested in our clientsâ€™ safety should have the opportunity to own the businesses we dedicate our careers to building.</p> <p>House Bill 26-1249 is about fairness, modernization, and economic opportunity â€” without compromising patient safety.</p> <p>I respectfully urge you to support this bill.</p> <p>Thank you for your time and consideration.</p>
<p>Erika Kuhn Amend</p>	<p>My name is Erika Kuhn, and I am a licensed Nurse Practitioner and the owner of a medical spa that provides aesthetic and wellness services within the full scope of my training and state</p>

<p>themselves</p>	<p>regulations. I am submitting this testimony in strong support of legislation that allows nurse practitioners to own and operate their own medical spas and to perform services such as injectables, microneedling, laser treatments, weight loss, IPL, hormone replacement therapy, and other aesthetic procedures.</p> <p>As a nurse practitioner, I have practiced responsibly and in full compliance with existing laws and standards of care. My education, clinical training, and ongoing certifications prepare me to safely perform these procedures, manage complications, and ensure high-quality patient outcomes. The current regulatory limitations do not reflect the modern training and capabilities of nurse practitioners, nor do they reflect the needs of patients seeking safe, accessible aesthetic care.</p> <p>Allowing NP, estheticians, cosmetologists, and PAs to operate their own practices benefits the public in several important ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Improve access to care -High standards of safety -Patient choice and affordability -Alignment and national trends <p>I have seen firsthand how responsible NP-led aesthetic care can improve patient confidence, well-being, and access to medically supervised treatments. This legislation recognizes the expertise of nurse practitioners and removes outdated restrictions that limit our ability to serve our communities.</p> <p>For these reasons, I respectfully urge you to support this bill and affirm the ability of nurse practitioners to own and operate medical spas and perform aesthetic procedures within our scope of practice.</p> <p>Thank you for your consideration.</p>
<p>Jennifer Melaragno For themselves</p>	<p>My daughter is an esthetician and will greatly benefit from the passage of this bill to help support her new business.</p>

<p>Katherine Autry</p> <p>For themselves</p>	<p>My name is Katherine Autry, and I am a licensed esthetician with more than 25 years of experience in the beauty and wellness industry. I respectfully submit this testimony in support of HB26-1249, which would allow licensed estheticians to own and operate medical spa businesses.</p> <p>Licensed estheticians are highly trained professionals who specialize in skin health, facial treatments, and non-invasive cosmetic services. Despite our education, experience, and regulatory oversight, many states currently prohibit estheticians from owning medical spa establishments. This limitation prevents experienced professionals from fully participating in the growth and innovation of the skincare and aesthetic industry.</p> <p>Allowing estheticians to own medical spas would support small business development, create jobs, and expand access to professional skincare services for communities. Estheticians already play a central role in the daily operations of medical spas, including client consultations, skin analysis, and non-medical aesthetic treatments. Ownership opportunities would simply allow qualified professionals to operate businesses.</p> <p>Importantly, this legislation does not remove medical oversight requirements for medical procedures. Instead, it creates a more balanced and modern framework that recognizes the expertise of licensed estheticians while maintaining appropriate safety standards and regulatory protections for the public.</p> <p>After more than two decades in this profession, I have seen firsthand how skilled estheticians contribute to skin health, consumer education, and safe aesthetic practices. Allowing estheticians to own medical spa businesses would strengthen the industry, support entrepreneurship, and ensure that experienced professionals can responsibly lead these establishments.</p>
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	<p>For these reasons, I respectfully urge the committee to support HB26-1249.</p> <p>Thank you for your time and consideration.</p> <p>Respectfully, Katherine Autry Licensed Esthetician</p>
<p>Korbin Arps For themself</p>	<p>I am writing in support of House Bill 26â€™1249</p> <p>This is an opportunity to allow professionals in the aesthetic industry, and several other industries to continue to further their careers. I a licensed aesthetician have gone through extensive school training and advanced aesthetic training. I have dedicated my career to skin care needs, client confidence, client safety, and sanitary procedures. Being able to own a medical spa would allow small businesses to grow even further and create many more opportunities for individuals. Giving skin care professionals the opportunity to own medical spas would ensure that these businesses are run properly and effectively because that has been what we have been doing from day one of our careers. We already have the knowledge and passion, now we just need the opportunity.</p> <p>I urge you to support House Bill 26â€™1249</p>
<p>Breanna Glanzer For themself</p>	<p>My name is Breanna Glanzer and I am for HB26-1249. As a licensed aesthetician and small business owner, I fully support this bill.</p> <p>I have put in the blood sweat and tears to get my license in aesthetics, etc., and pursue the hard work it takes to build and sustain a small business. If this bill does not pass, the result would be that only licensed physicians are able to own medical</p>

	<p>spas. It would completely strip away all of the hard work that I and other licensed aestheticians have been so dedicated to succeeding in.</p> <p>In the aesthetic industry we are constantly evolving and bettering our education to best serve our clients. I have grown my business from the ground up over the last four years and where I am now is more than enough proof that aestheticians like myself are more than capable of owning our spas. This is more than just work to us. It is our passion.</p> <p>Please pass HB26-1249.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>
<p>McKenna Couch For themselves</p>	<p>My name is McKenna Couch, and I am a licensed esthetician and medical aesthetic injector. I am writing to respectfully ask for your support of House Bill 26-1249. I have owned and operated my small business for the past two years, serving patients in our community with safe, ethical, and result-driven aesthetic treatments.</p> <p>I am writing to express my support for House Bill 26-1249. As a provider, patient safety and professional standards are extremely important to me. This bill helps protect consumers while supporting responsible, licensed professionals who are committed to operating ethically and compliantly.</p> <p>Thank you for your time and for your service to our community. I respectfully urge you to support House Bill 26-1249.</p>

	<p>Sincerely,</p> <p>McKenna Couch</p> <p>Licensed Esthetician</p> <p>(970) 702 3901 enhancedesthetics.mc@gmail.com</p>
<p>Callie Lambros</p> <p>For themselves</p>	<p>I am writing in support of House Bill 26-1249.</p> <p>As a licensed esthetician and small business owner in Colorado, I believe this bill is extremely important for the future of our industry. Currently, estheticians and other qualified professionals such as nurses, physician assistants, and nurse practitioners cannot own or co-own medical spas, even though many of us are highly trained and actively working in these environments.</p> <p>Allowing ownership opportunities would create more small businesses, support entrepreneurship, and help experienced professionals grow within the field they are already trained and licensed in. It would also allow estheticians to collaborate with medical providers while still maintaining appropriate safety and regulatory oversight.</p> <p>This bill supports fair business opportunities, strengthens the aesthetics industry, and allows skilled professionals to expand services responsibly.</p> <p>I strongly encourage the committee to support HB26-1249.</p> <p>Thank you for your time and consideration.</p>

	<p>Callie Lambros</p>
<p>Lyubov Sajevic For themselves</p>	<p>Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,</p> <p>My name is Lyubov Sajevic. I am a Colorado constituent and the owner of Lyubov Spa, a small business serving clients in Broomfield and Greenwood Village, Colorado.</p> <p>I respectfully write to support House Bill 26-1249: Ownership of Medical-Aesthetics Professional Service Corporations.</p> <p>This legislation addresses current Colorado medical spa ownership restrictions that limit ownership primarily to licensed physicians. These restrictions exclude many qualified licensed professionals including estheticians, cosmetologists, licensed practical nurses, registered nurses, advanced practice registered nurses, and physician assistants who are trained, regulated, and actively working within the medical aesthetics industry.</p> <p>House Bill 26-1249 would allow licensed professionals who are already part of this industry to participate as shareholders in medical-aesthetics professional service corporations while maintaining professional oversight and regulatory accountability.</p> <p>This bill supports small business ownership, responsible entrepreneurship, and economic growth within Colorado's medical aesthetics industry. It also helps align state law with how this industry currently operates while continuing to protect professional standards and consumer safety.</p> <p>As a licensed professional and small business owner serving Colorado residents, I believe this legislation will provide fair and</p>

	<p>modern opportunities for qualified professionals while maintaining appropriate regulatory safeguards.</p> <p>Thank you for your time, service, and consideration.</p> <p>Warmly and sincerely,</p> <p>Lyubov Sajevic Owner, L&#177;ubov Spa 376 West 125th Circle Broomfield, Colorado 80020 License No. COZ.0726773</p>
<p>Elise Dominick For herself</p>	<p>Good afternoon, Chair and members of the committee,</p> <p>My name is Elise Dominick. I am a licensed esthetician here in Colorado, and I&#177;m here today in support of HB26-1249.</p> <p>As someone working directly in the aesthetics industry, I see every day how much this field has grown and evolved. Many medical aesthetic practices are built and supported by licensed professionals such as estheticians, nurses, and other trained providers who dedicate their careers to this work.</p> <p>However, the current laws surrounding ownership do not always reflect how these practices actually operate. Many professionals who contribute significantly to building and running these businesses are unable to participate in ownership under the current structure. This creates confusion and leaves many practices operating in uncertain legal territory.</p>

	<p>HB26-1249 helps provide a clearer and more modern framework for how these businesses can operate in Colorado.</p> <p>Importantly, this legislation does not change scope of practice or who is allowed to perform medical procedures. All providers will continue to work within their licensed scope and remain regulated by their respective boards.</p> <p>This bill supports transparency, fairness, and opportunities for the professionals who help build and grow these practices.</p> <p>I respectfully ask for your support of HB26-1249.</p> <p>Thank you for your time and consideration</p>
<p>Dawn Couch For Enhanced Esthetics</p>	<p>Good afternoon Chair and members of the committee,</p> <p>My name is Dawn Couch, and I am a Colorado resident. I am here to respectfully ask you to support House Bill 26-1249.</p> <p>Medical-aesthetic services are often provided by highly trained professionals such as nurses, physician assistants, estheticians, and cosmetologists. These professionals already play a critical role in patient care and the day-to-day operation of aesthetic practices. However, current ownership laws limit their ability to fully participate in the businesses they help build and operate.</p> <p>HB26-1249 creates a more modern and fair framework by allowing licensed professionals who are already regulated and trained in their fields to have ownership opportunities in corporations that provide medical-aesthetic services. This change supports small businesses, encourages</p>

	<p>entrepreneurship, and recognizes the expertise of the professionals delivering these services.</p> <p>Importantly, these individuals would still need to hold active licenses as the industry requires and operate within the scope of their professional regulations, which helps maintain safety and accountability for patients.</p> <p>Colorado should support innovation and opportunity in growing industries for anyone who is interested in this line of work whether it be as an employee or business owner, while continuing to protect consumers. Allowing qualified professionals to have a stake in the practices they help run is a reasonable and responsible step forward.</p> <p>For these reasons, I respectfully ask the committee to vote yes on House Bill 26-1249.</p> <p>Thank you for your time and consideration.</p>
<p>Danielle Diaz</p> <p>For themselves</p>	<p>My name is Danielle Diaz</p> <p>I am a licensed esthetician for 6 years who is also nationally certified. I teach at an established esthetician school and have now for 3 years.</p> <p>I am here in support for the HB26-1249. As a professional I provide services like laser, IPL, and microneedling. Other med spa owners do these same services with the delegation from a medical director. This bill is not about who is delivering what service but just the ownership of the spa, it has no correlation to our scope of practice.</p> <p>Most med spas in the state are not owned by a physicians, I have looked into other med spas with the sunset of this bill and found this information. This change in the bill can help these spas not operate in a gray area.</p>

	Thank you for your time.
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Good afternoon, Chair and members of the committee, My name is Carol Sigala. I am a licensed esthetician, a permanent makeup artist, and a small business owner here in Colorado.

Through my work in the beauty and medical-aesthetics field, I see every day how estheticians and other licensed professionals contribute to the growth and success of medical spa practices. Many of us dedicate years to education, training, and building businesses that serve our communities.

However, Colorado's current ownership laws do not always reflect the reality of how these practices operate today. Many skilled professionals help build and manage these businesses but cannot legally participate in ownership under the current structure.

HB26-1249 would help create a clearer and more modern framework that supports transparency and fairness for licensed professionals while still protecting patient safety. It is important to note that this legislation does not change the scope of practice or who is allowed to perform medical procedures.

As a small business owner and esthetician, I believe this bill supports opportunity, growth, and recognition for the professionals who work hard to build these practices.

Thank you for your time and consideration.



February 27, 2026

To: Colorado House Health and Human Services Committee

RE: Comments in Support of HB26-1249

Associated Skin Care Professionals (ASCP) is the nation's only professional membership association based in Golden, CO that represents the interests of estheticians and skincare professionals across the country.

ASCP stands in strong support of HB26-1249, which would change ownership eligibility for medical-aesthetics corporations. This bill provides much-needed modernization to current law by allowing estheticians, cosmetologists, nurses, and physician assistants to become majority shareholders in corporations that solely provide medical-aesthetic services.

These services include treatments such as:

- Injectables
- Laser devices
- Intense pulsed light (IPL)
- Radio frequency
- Medical-grade chemical peels

Under current law, majority ownership of these corporations providing medical-aesthetic services is limited to individuals holding a medical license, despite the fact that the majority of services provided in these establishments are not provided by medical license-holders. These individuals typically offer a supervisory role within the medical-aesthetic business. Estheticians deserve to own their businesses as much as any other professional, and to restrict their ability to own a business if they have a business partner performing medical-aesthetic services is an unfair advantage granted to medical license-holders.

Estheticians would be afforded the legal right to hold equity in their own business, participate in profit-sharing, and have influence over day-to-day operations and service menu offerings. This is essential for economic opportunity and financial growth for skin care professionals.

This bill does not expand or restrict any licensee's scope of practice, nor does it eliminate any supervision requirement for services provided. It simply allows the people doing the work to grow their business and be compensated fairly for the hard work they do. Esthetics and medical-aesthetics are rapidly growing industries—the Coloradans who made these industries their life's work deserve to see their careers grow as well. Please support HB26-1249.



Please contact me at lpuryear@pac.company for further discussion or questions.

Thank you,

Laura Puryear

Laura Puryear, Director of Government Relations

Associated Skin Care Professionals

Dear Representatives Gonzalez, Ricks and the GSA,

Thank you for allowing my testimony today.

I serve the Colorado Public as: Medical Doctor, Medical Director, Facial Injectable Instructor, Aesthetic Business Consultant and **THE COLORADO EXPERT IN MEDICAL AESTHETIC COMPLIANCES UNDER BOARD RULE 1.17** and other compliance categories.

From 2008-2018: part time Director. Since 2018, full time Director, dedicating my entire clinical/administrative practice to: startup, development, assistance with running and federal/state/local compliances of medi spas in CO.

THERE IS NO SINGLE MD WHO CAN MATCH MY EXPERIENCE BY DURATION OF SUPERVISION COMBINED WITH NUMBER OF MEDISPAS SUPERVISED.

I supervise non-licensees and licensees of all types at DORA.

My name is synonymous with: integrity, high quality Medical Directing and Teaching Instruction, as well as strict compliance and excellent clinical aesthetic results with very low rate of complications.

I have reviewed **HB 26-1249: Please find my comments below to summarize my thoughts** as the **Colorado Medical Director Expert and Compliance Expert.**

1. **Ownership Physician:** I would **prefer Majority Ownership must be maintained by physicians** due to high degree of knowledge, complexities and experience which only Physicians have: **no other licensees at DORA come close** to Physician experience, education, knowledge base, understanding of rules/regulations. **The physicians are the "Generals of the Medical Army"** in Colorado and know the laws, rules, regulations and compliances the best. In addition, they have the most experience in the battles of law, rules, and complications. **Summary:** Physicians should **maintain majority shareholder status, however allowing other non-physician licensees to hold non-majority shareholder status.** However.....

2. **Ownership Other:** If you decide that you want to offer **non-physicians to hold Majority Ownership or sole Ownership** of any medical aesthetic grade business, you **MUST THEN AT ALL TIMES AND ALL CIRCUMSTANCES, HAVE ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING:**

A. **an MD as an equity but non-majority owner and compliance officer and or**

B. **an MD as a business consultant and compliance officer and or**

C. **an MD as a Medical Director and compliance officer for all businesses using aesthetician, RN, PA, NP or DORA licensee and non-licensees.**

And

D. You must allow Physicians to maintain Federal/State/local compliances and not be outvoted by other members of the equity ownership to continue to allow adequate protection of the CO public. Allowing minority Physicians to be outvoted by majority non-physician equity owners could harm the CO public with removals of necessary compliances and precautions to keep safe the CO public.

Summary: Removal of Majority Physician Ownership requirement is MUCH DIFFERENT than removal of the Medical Doctor/Director/Compliance Officer requirements. Regardless of ownership status, you MUST KEEP THE GENERALS OF THE MEDICAL ARMY ACTIVE IN THE MEDICAL DOCTOR/DIRECTOR/CONSULTANT/COMPLIANCE OFFICER ROLES as they are the experts in education with experience and depth of knowledge expertise to allow non-physicians to properly function and provide safe services to the public in the great State of Colorado.

Removal of MD majority ownership is a statutory issue related primarily to the financial sale of medi spa businesses by their owners. Ownership alone does not affect the health of the CO public.

Removal of MD supervision, directing, consulting, compliance officer status within any non-physician owned medi spa is a health disaster for the public in Colorado, filled with more injuries and patient harm, as well as statutory complaints for DORA, AG office, lawsuits and in the end, poorer medical aesthetic outcomes harming the good citizens of Colorado.

I vote to keep the Physician majority ownership and allow non-physician licensee owners as minority owners.

If you dare wade into the cold dark depths of non-physician majority ownership, sole non-physician ownership and or clinical and administrative medi spas functioning in CO without Medical Doctors or Directors or Compliance officers whose sole job is to protect the CO public, make damn sure you prepare yourself for what you have done.

You need to ensure that Medical Doctors continue to be part owners or consultants or Medical Directors and Compliance Officers who exist to solely protect the public while delegating to delegatee owners.

No one else has the knowledge to protect the public adequately more than Physicians.

It is vitally important you understand that you must not remove Physicians and their required compliance role as the medi spas Doctor/Director/Compliance Officer role that

protects the CO public, regardless of your decisions regarding majority and minority ownership.

Thank you.

Michael Iannotti, M.D.

Physician license 39567



LCS Committees <committees.lcs.ga@coleg.gov>

Re: Registration Confirmation - House Health & Human Services

Jeri Walsh <ohappyface@gmail.com>
To: LCS Committees <committees.lcs.ga@coleg.gov>

Tue, Mar 10, 2026 at 12:28 PM

Here you go, thank you!

Written Testimony in Support of HB26-1249

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

My name is Jeri Walsh, and I am the founder and operator of Golden Laser Aesthetics in Golden, Colorado. I earned my Esthetician License in 2008, just after high school, at the age of 18. This decision was driven by my personal experiences with skin issues during my childhood. I am passionate about helping individuals achieve their skincare goals and improve their overall well-being.

I registered to provide testimony today but unfortunately could not attend the hearing due to scheduling conflicts. I appreciate the opportunity to submit my thoughts in writing.

I have spent the past **nine years building and operating my clinic Golden Laser Aesthetics**, where we employ licensed providers and care for patients in our community every day.

Medical aesthetics today is delivered by **highly trained licensed professionals**, including nurses, advanced practice providers, and aestheticians, who perform these services safely and responsibly. However, current ownership laws in Colorado often require complicated corporate structures where physicians must technically own the medical entity, even when experienced professionals are building and operating the practice.

These requirements create unnecessary complexity and barriers for responsible small business owners.

House Bill 26-1249 would help modernize Colorado law to better reflect how the medical aesthetics field actually operates, while maintaining existing safety standards and licensing requirements.

As a **Colorado small business owner and employer**, I respectfully encourage the committee to support this legislation.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Jeri Walsh
Founder & Operator
Golden Laser Aesthetics
Golden, Colorado

[Quoted text hidden]

Testimony in Support of House Bill 26-1249

Dear Members of the Committee,

My name is Jessica Brandon. I am a licensed esthetician, educator, and owner of J Marie Skin Studio and Modern Aesthetics Academy in Longmont, Colorado, and I have worked in the aesthetics industry for more than 22 years. I respectfully urge you to support House Bill 26-1249.

Under current Colorado law, licensed estheticians can legally perform many advanced medical aesthetic procedures under medical direction, including treatments involving laser devices, intense pulsed light (IPL), radiofrequency technology, microneedling, and medical-grade chemical peels.

In many practices across Colorado, estheticians are the professionals who are actually delivering these treatments to patients every day. We perform the procedures, educate patients, manage treatment protocols, and monitor outcomes in the treatment room.

However, despite being legally allowed to perform these services, estheticians are not allowed to own the businesses that provide them.

The current ownership restriction effectively tells estheticians:

“You can perform many of these services. You can train in them. You can build the client relationships. But you cannot own the business.”

That is difficult to justify.

Estheticians invest heavily in advanced education and specialized certifications in order to safely perform these procedures. Most medical aesthetic practices require estheticians to complete additional training in laser technology, advanced modalities, and treatment protocols before they are allowed to work with these devices. Many of us spend years continuing our education and refining our expertise.

Yet despite making these investments and contributing significantly to the success of these businesses, estheticians face a hard ceiling on our professional and financial growth because we are legally prohibited from owning the very practices we help build.

Allowing estheticians to have ownership in medical aesthetic service corporations would create meaningful opportunities for small business growth across Colorado.

Estheticians are deeply rooted in their communities. Allowing ownership would enable experienced professionals to start and grow businesses, create jobs, and invest more directly in their local economies.

Medical aesthetic practices are locally owned service businesses that support a network of other local industries—from medical professionals and skincare manufacturers to marketing firms, suppliers, and commercial landlords. When estheticians are able to build and own these businesses, the economic benefits stay within the local community.

This legislation would also strengthen practices by allowing professionals who spend the most time in the treatment room to have a voice in leadership and operational decisions, supporting better treatment protocols and responsible use of aesthetic technologies.

Colorado already trusts estheticians to perform these procedures and care for patients under medical direction. It is reasonable that the professionals delivering these services should also have the opportunity to build and own the businesses that provide them.

House Bill 26-1249 would modernize Colorado law in a way that supports local entrepreneurship, workforce advancement, and responsible growth within the medical aesthetics industry.

For these reasons, I respectfully encourage you to support House Bill 26-1249.

Respectfully,

Jessica Brandon, LE

Owner, J Marie Skin Studio

Longmont, Colorado