AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 37:563(introductory paragraph) and (6) and R.S. 40:2831(introductory paragraph) and (1)(b) and to enact R.S. 37:581(B)(6), relative to ear piercing; to exempt ear piercing from certain regulatory requirements; to provide for persons engaged in piercing; to provide requirements for exemption; to make technical changes; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 37:563(introductory paragraph) and (6) are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 37:581(B)(6) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§563. Definitions

As used in this Chapter, the following words shall have the meaning herein ascribed to them, unless the context clearly otherwise indicates the following meanings:

* * *

(6)(a) "Cosmetology" means the practice of using one's hands, mechanical or electrical apparatuses, or appliances or using cosmetic preparations, antiseptics, soaps, detergents, tonics, lotions, or creams in any one or any combination of the practices of esthetics, hair dressing, and manicuring for compensation, direct or indirect, including tips.
(b) "Cosmetology" does not include ear piercing as provided for in R.S. 37:581(B)(6).

§581. Unlawful practice; exemptions

B. The following persons are exempt from the provisions of this Chapter while in the proper discharge of their professional duties in a facility not licensed by the board:

(6) A cosmetologist, esthetician, qualified healthcare professional, or employee of a qualified healthcare professional who engages in ear piercing if both of the following are true:

(a) The person utilizes piercing needles that are single-use, hollow, and made of stainless steel.

(b) The person complies with all manufacturer instructions for any apparatus used to pierce the ear and all applicable health and safety standards.

Section 2. R.S. 40:2831(introductory paragraph) and (1)(b) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§2831. Definitions

As used in this Chapter, these the following terms shall have the following meanings:

(1) "Commercial body art facility" means any location, place, area, or business, whether permanent or temporary, which provides consumers access to personal services workers who for remuneration perform any of the following procedures:
(b) Body piercing or the creation of an opening in the body of a human being
for the purpose of inserting jewelry or other decoration; but does not for the purposes
of this Chapter, include piercing an ear in either of the following manners:

(i) with a disposable, single-use stud or solid needle that is applied
using a mechanical device to force the needle or stud through the ear, if the person
complies with all manufacturer instructions for any apparatus used to pierce the ear
and all applicable health and safety standards.

(ii) By a cosmetologist, esthetician, qualified healthcare professional, or
employee of a qualified healthcare professional if both of the following are true:

(aa) The person utilizes piercing needles that are single-use, hallow, and
made of stainless steel.

(bb) The person complies with all manufacturer instructions for any
apparatus used to pierce the ear and all applicable health and safety standards.

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DIGEST

HB 822 Engrossed 2022 Regular Session Davis

Abstract: Exempts ear piercing from licensure requirements if certain criteria are met.

Present law requires persons who practice cosmetology in the state to be licensed by the
state board.

Proposed law retains present law, but exempts certain persons engaging in ear piercing from
the licensing requirement if certain conditions are met.

The exemption in proposed law would apply to a cosmetologist, esthetician, qualified
healthcare professional, or employee of a qualified healthcare professional who does both
of the following:

(1) Uses stainless steel, single-use, hollow needles to pierce the ear.

(2) Complies with all applicable instructions of any device used in the piercing and with
all health and safety standards.

Present law regulates persons who provide body modification services in this state, but
carves out an exemption for persons who pierce ears using a stud gun, as long as the person
complies with all instructions for use and all health and safety standards.

CODING: Words in struck through type are deletions from existing law; words underscored
are additions.
Proposed law expands the exemption to include ear piercing if the piercer is a cosmetologist, esthetician, qualified healthcare professional, or employee of a qualified healthcare professional who does both of the following:

1) Uses stainless steel, single-use, hollow needles to pierce the ear.

2) Complies with all applicable instructions of any device used in the piercing and with all health and safety standards.

(Amends R.S. 37:563(intro. para.) and (6) and R.S. 40:2831(intro. para.) and (1)(b); Adds R.S. 37:581(B)(6))