

To: Senator Kris Jordan and members of the Sunset Review Committee

From: Mr. R.D. Hampton

Date: 2/24/2016

Chairman Jordan and members of the Sunset Review Committee, my name is R.D. Hampton and I'm currently a barber instructor at the London Correctional Institution. I've been employed there for 3 years and it has truly been an honor to instruct the inmates at the prison.

The barber school at the London Correctional Institution has been established since 1986 and has successfully graduated over 150 men. The Ohio State Barber Board has licensed all of them. Most of those men have been able, upon release, to support their families while becoming a productive member of society.

I am one of those restored-citizens. I was incarcerated at the age of 16 and during my incarceration the barber board made it possible for me to obtain a barber license. Once I was released I opened a successful barbershop, then eventually became the first barber instructor to teach at an institution after being incarcerated.

The Ohio State Barber Board has given me this opportunity because of their ability to see beyond someone's past and look at the impact they would have on our industry as a whole.

The Ohio State Barber Board has made it possible for guys from similar backgrounds such as mine to believe that there is hope after incarceration. And with a variety of collateral sanctions placed upon restored-citizens, the Ohio State Barber Board make it possible for them to immediately impact the workforce and rebuild their reputation.

The Ohio State Barber Board has a strong influence in our industry, holding each license barber accountable for upholding the laws, which are in place for one purpose, to protect the public.

The Ohio State Barber Board is not only reducing the recidivism rate in Ohio, they are also playing a role in reducing the unemployment rate state wide.