MEETING SUMMARY

NEW YORK STATE APPEARANCE ENHANCEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
March 24, 2026

The meeting was held by the Department of State, Division of Licensing Services, via Webex conferencing between DOS offices.

I. CALL TO ORDER, INTRODUCTIONS and OFFICIAL ATTENDANCE

Emily Lupe called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. and announced that this is an open meeting of the New York State Appearance Enhancement Advisory Committee. E. Lupe performed roll call and welcomed members; a quorum was not achieved. The official attendance was as follows:

COMMITTEE MEMBERS
Leeanne Shade
Claudette Gyles

VISITORS
Charlene Donohue
David Sampson

DEPARTMENT OF STATE STAFF
Emily Lupe
Shannon Maguire
David Mossberg
Laura VanNatten
Candice Burchett
Joseph Daurio

II. NEW BUSINESS -

A. Hair Relaxers – Emily Lupe summarized a letter from a member of the public expressing concern about chemicals in hair relaxer products and possible links to uterine cancer, endometriosis, and other hormone-related health issues. Committee members noted that chemicals used in the industry can present risks to both clients and licensees with repeated exposure and agreed the issue, including how hair relaxers fit within the Committee's scope, should be further reviewed.

B. Request for Scope Review; Controlled Microchanneling - Leeanne Shade presented a request for a scope review of controlled microchanneling from a licensed cosmetologist and tattoo artist, also certified in trichology, who has been advised that cosmetologists in New York State may not perform this service, while tattoo artists regulated by local health departments may do so. The device described uses a fixed, shallow needle depth (about 0.25 millimeters) and is promoted as less invasive than traditional microneedling or tattooing; the Committee discussed training and consumer-protection concerns. David Mossberg noted that he reviewed prior determinations from the State Education department and the State Board of Acupuncture that noted microneedling falls under the practice of acupuncture and recommended referring the matter to the State Board of Acupuncture for further guidance on whether that service is distinct from microneedling and how it should be classified for scope-of-practice purposes, noting also that no formal action could be taken without a quorum.

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III. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD –

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IV. ADJOURNMENT – The meeting adjourned at 10:19am

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