

Hairdressers Unbound?

April 11, 2019

Joe Biden, late of the U.S. Senate and Blair House, is not someone I typically rush to for policy advice. Were I looking for a weather vane to indicate whence bad ideas come a-gusting, in full poisonous gasbaggery, Biden might serve as well as any of the budding socialists now running for the presidency.

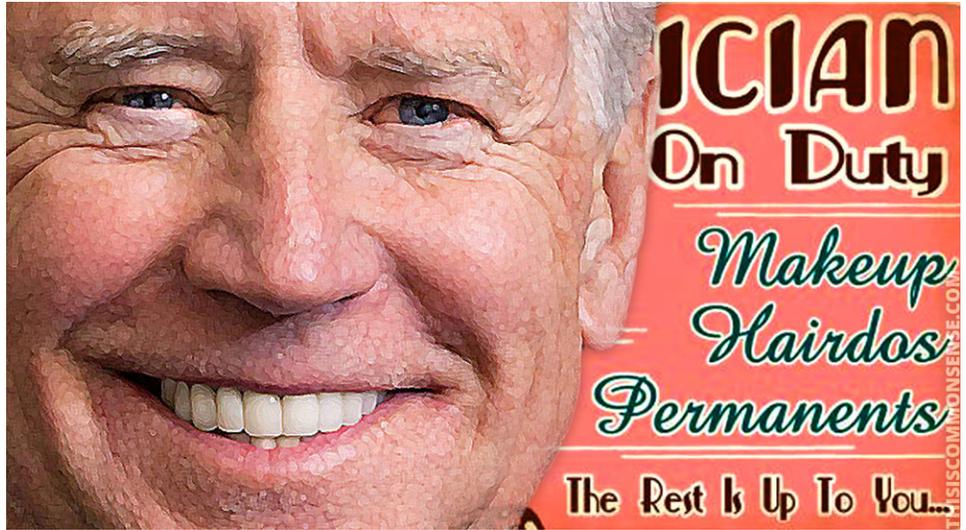
But he has a clue about one thing: Occupational licensing.

Last week, Biden came out against the cosmetology licenses so common in states throughout the union. "Joe Biden knocks licensing requirements for hairdressers," Philip Wegmann summarized on Twitter,

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"says it's ridiculous that licenses take '400 hours' of training: 'It's all about not helping workers.'"

Now, this is hardly a federal issue for a president to tackle. And Biden sure seems to



be itching to run for the top banana position that he was so close to for eight years.

But states *can* do something — about their own stupid regulations. As Arizona just showed when the legislature passed a bill to acknowledge the occupational licenses from other states when a person moves to Arizona. This allows more freedom of movement among the states, and brings the state back into line with the common market idea of the U.S. Constitution. Governor Doug Ducey is expected to sign (or may already have done so, by the time this is published): it sure fits with the governor's proclaimed desire to roll back regulations.

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After all, states universally recognize all others' drivers' licenses. If you may navigate a metal-and-glass mortician's little helper based on your state's licensing, surely you can clip hair safely enough.

This is Common Sense. I'm Paul Jacob.