
By: Senators Craig and Hollinger

Introduced and read first time: January 31, 1997

Assigned to: Economic and Environmental Affairs

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 State Board of Examiners for Audiologists, Hearing Aid Dispensers, and
3 Speech-Language Pathologists - Appointment of Audiologist Members

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the Governor to appoint the audiologist members of the
5 State Board of Examiners for Audiologists, Hearing Aid Dispensers, and
6 Speech-Language Pathologists from a certain list submitted to the Governor and
7 the Secretary of the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene by the Maryland
8 Academy of Audiology and the Maryland Speech-Language and Hearing
9 Association; requiring that the list contain a certain minimum number of people;
10 requiring the Maryland Academy of Audiology and the Maryland Speech-Language
11 and Hearing Association to notify by mail all licensed audiologists of the vacancy on
12 the Board; requiring the Maryland Academy of Audiology and the Maryland
13 Speech-Language and Hearing Association to conduct a ballot of all licensed
14 audiologists to select the names that will be submitted to the Secretary and the
15 Governor; making stylistic changes; and generally relating to the appointment of
16 audiologist members of the State Board of Examiners for Audiologists, Hearing Aid
17 Dispensers, and Speech-Language Pathologists.

18 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
19 Article - Health Occupations
20 Section 2-201
21 Annotated Code of Maryland
22 (1994 Replacement Volume and 1996 Supplement)

23 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
24 Article - Health Occupations
25 Section 2-202(a) and (f)(6)
26 Annotated Code of Maryland
27 (1994 Replacement Volume and 1996 Supplement)

28 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
29 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

2

1 **Article - Health Occupations**

2 2-201.

3 There is a State Board of Examiners for Audiologists, Hearing Aid Dispensers, and
4 Speech-Language Pathologists in the Department.

5 2-202.

6 (a) (1) The Board consists of 13 members.

7 (2) Of the 13 Board members:

8 (i) 3 shall be licensed audiologists who have at least 5 years' paid work
9 experience in audiology;

10 (ii) 3 shall be licensed speech-language pathologists who have at least
11 5 years' paid work experience in speech-language pathology;

12 (iii) 2 shall be physicians who:

13 1. Are licensed to practice medicine in this State; and

14 2. Hold a certificate of qualification from the American Board
15 of Otolaryngology;

16 (iv) 2 shall be consumer members, 1 of whom shall be hearing
17 impaired; and

18 (v) 3 shall be licensed hearing aid dispensers who have at least 5 years'
19 paid work experience in dispensing hearing aids.

20 (3) The Governor shall appoint the physician members, with the advice of
21 the Secretary, from a list submitted to the Secretary and the Governor by the Maryland
22 Society of Otolaryngology with the approval of the Medical and Chirurgical Faculty of the
23 State of Maryland. There shall be at least [three] 3 names on the list.

24 (4) The Governor shall appoint the [audiologist and] speech-language
25 pathologist members, with the advice of the Secretary, from a list submitted to the
26 Secretary and the Governor by the Maryland Speech-Language and Hearing Association.
27 The number of names on the list shall be at least [three] 3 times the number of
28 vacancies.

29 (5) (I) SUBJECT TO SUBPARAGRAPH (II) OF THIS PARAGRAPH, THE
30 GOVERNOR SHALL APPOINT THE AUDIOLOGIST MEMBERS, WITH THE ADVICE OF
31 THE SECRETARY, FROM A LIST SUBMITTED TO THE SECRETARY AND THE
32 GOVERNOR, JOINTLY BY THE MARYLAND ACADEMY OF AUDIOLOGY AND THE
33 MARYLAND SPEECH-LANGUAGE AND HEARING ASSOCIATION. THE NUMBER OF
34 NAMES ON THE LIST SHALL BE AT LEAST 3 TIMES THE NUMBER OF VACANCIES.

35 (II) FOR EACH AUDIOLOGIST VACANCY, THE MARYLAND
36 ACADEMY OF AUDIOLOGY AND THE MARYLAND SPEECH-LANGUAGE AND
37 HEARING ASSOCIATION SHALL:

3

1 1. NOTIFY BY MAIL ALL LICENSED AUDIOLOGISTS IN THE
2 STATE OF THE VACANCY TO SOLICIT NOMINATIONS TO FILL THE VACANCY; AND

3 2. CONDUCT A BALLOTING PROCESS BY MAIL BY WHICH
4 EVERY LICENSED AUDIOLOGIST IN THE STATE IS ELIGIBLE TO VOTE ON THE NAMES
5 OF THE LICENSED AUDIOLOGISTS TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE SECRETARY AND THE
6 GOVERNOR.

7 [(5)] (6) The Governor shall appoint the hearing aid dispenser members,
8 with the advice of the Secretary, from a list submitted to the Secretary and the Governor
9 by the Maryland members of the Hearing Aid Specialist Association of Maryland, District
10 of Columbia, and Delaware. The number of names on the list shall be at least 3 times the
11 number of vacancies.

12 [(6)] (7) (i) The Governor shall appoint the consumer members with the
13 advice of the Secretary and the advice and consent of the Senate.

14 (ii) 1. The Governor shall appoint the hearing impaired consumer
15 member from a list submitted to the Secretary and the Governor by the Governor's Office
16 for Individuals with Disabilities.

17 2. The Governor's Office for Individuals with Disabilities shall
18 solicit nominees from each of the hearing impaired associations in the State.

19 (f) (6) To the extent practicable, the Governor shall fill any vacancy on the
20 Board within 60 days [of] AFTER the date of the vacancy.

21 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
22 October 1, 1997.