
By: **Delegate Stup**

Introduced and read first time: February 12, 1998

Assigned to: Environmental Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **State Board of Examiners for Audiologists, Hearing Aid Dispensers, and**
3 **Speech-Language Pathologists - Practice of Audiology**

4 FOR the purpose of providing that matters directly affecting the practice of audiology,
5 to be voted on by the State Board of Examiners for Audiologists, Hearing Aid
6 Dispensers, and Speech-Language Pathologists, shall be voted on only by the
7 members of the Board who are licensed by the Board.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
9 Article - Health Occupations
10 Section 2-202(a)
11 Annotated Code of Maryland
12 (1994 Replacement Volume and 1997 Supplement)

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

15 **Article - Health Occupations**

16 2-202.

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

18 (2) Of the 13 Board members:

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

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

23 (iii) 2 shall be physicians who:

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

1
2 Board of Otolaryngology; 2. Hold a certificate of qualification from the American

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

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

7 (3) The Governor shall appoint the physician members, with the advice
8 of the Secretary, from a list submitted to the Secretary and the Governor by the
9 Maryland Society of Otolaryngology with the approval of the Medical and Chirurgical
10 Faculty of the State of Maryland. There shall be at least 3 names on the list.

11 (4) The Governor shall appoint the speech-language pathologist
12 members, with the advice of the Secretary, from a list submitted to the Secretary and
13 the Governor by the Maryland Speech-Language and Hearing Association. The
14 number of names on the list shall be at least 3 times the number of vacancies.

15 (5) (i) Subject to subparagraph (ii) of this paragraph, the Governor
16 shall appoint the audiologist members, with the advice of the Secretary, from a list
17 submitted to the Secretary and the Governor, jointly by the Maryland Academy of
18 Audiology and the Maryland Speech-Language and Hearing Association. The number
19 of names on the list shall be at least 3 times the number of vacancies.

20 (ii) For each audiologist vacancy, the Maryland Academy of
21 Audiology and the Maryland Speech-Language and Hearing Association shall:

22 1. Notify by mail all licensed audiologists in the State of the
23 vacancy to solicit nominations to fill the vacancy; and

24 2. Conduct a balloting process by mail by which every
25 licensed audiologist in the State is eligible to vote on the names of the licensed
26 audiologists to be submitted to the Secretary and the Governor.

27 (6) The Governor shall appoint the hearing aid dispenser members, with
28 the advice of the Secretary, from a list submitted to the Secretary and the Governor
29 by the Maryland members of the Hearing Aid Specialist Association of Maryland,
30 District of Columbia, and Delaware. The number of names on the list shall be at least
31 3 times the number of vacancies.

32 (7) (i) The Governor shall appoint the consumer members with the
33 advice of the Secretary and the advice and consent of the Senate.

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

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

1 (8) MATTERS DIRECTLY RELATED TO THE PRACTICE OF AUDIOLOGY
2 SHALL BE VOTED ON ONLY BY THE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD WHO ARE LICENSED BY
3 THE BOARD.

4 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
5 October 1, 1998.