
By: **Delegates Cardin, Barkley, Bromwell, Burns, Kaiser, Madaleno, Malone,
Minnick, Moe, Montgomery, Nathan-Pulliam, Ramirez, Ross, Taylor,
F. Turner, and Weir**

Introduced and read first time: February 11, 2005

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Education - Audiologists and Speech-Language Pathologists - Licensing Fee**
3 **Reimbursement**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing a program of State aid to certain audiologists and
5 speech-language pathologists who provide third-party billing services in
6 schools; requiring the State to reimburse certain audiologists and
7 speech-language pathologists a certain amount equal to certain licensing fees
8 charged by the State Board of Audiologists, Hearing-Aid Dispensers, and
9 Speech-Language Pathologists; requiring the State Board of Education to adopt
10 certain regulations; requiring certain audiologists and speech-language
11 pathologists to reimburse the State a certain amount under certain
12 circumstances; and generally relating to the reimbursement of licensing fees for
13 audiologists and speech-language pathologists providing services in schools.

14 BY adding to

15 Article - Education

16 Section 6-112.1

17 Annotated Code of Maryland

18 (2004 Replacement Volume and 2004 Supplement)

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

21 **Article - Education**

22 6-112.1.

23 (A) IN THIS SECTION, "BOARD" MEANS THE STATE BOARD OF AUDIOLOGISTS,
24 HEARING-AID DISPENSERS, AND SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGISTS.

25 (B) THERE IS A PROGRAM OF STATE AID TO AUDIOLOGISTS AND
26 SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGISTS WHO:

1 (1) PROVIDE AUDIOLOGY AND SPEECH-LANGUAGE SERVICES ON A
2 THIRD-PARTY BILLING BASIS IN SCHOOLS; AND

3 (2) ARE LICENSED BY THE BOARD.

4 (C) EACH AUDIOLOGIST AND SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST WHO MEETS
5 THE REQUIREMENTS OF SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION SHALL RECEIVE FROM
6 THE STATE AN AMOUNT EQUAL TO THE INITIAL LICENSING FEE OR RENEWAL OF
7 LICENSE FEE CHARGED BY THE BOARD.

8 (D) THE STATE BOARD SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO IMPLEMENT AND
9 ADMINISTER THE PROGRAM ESTABLISHED UNDER THIS SECTION.

10 (E) AN AUDIOLOGIST OR SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST SHALL
11 REIMBURSE THE STATE THE FULL AMOUNT OF THE AID RECEIVED IF THE
12 AUDIOLOGIST OR SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST DOES NOT:

13 (1) COMPLETE ALL THE REQUIREMENTS FOR RENEWAL OF A LICENSE
14 BY THE BOARD; OR

15 (2) PROVIDE AUDIOLOGY OR SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY
16 SERVICES ON A THIRD-PARTY BILLING BASIS IN A SCHOOL.

17 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
18 July 1, 2005.