
By: **Senators Conway, Britt, Garagiola, and Klausmeier**
Introduced and read first time: February 3, 2006
Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Committee Report: Favorable
Senate action: Adopted
Read second time: March 22, 2006

CHAPTER_____

1 AN ACT concerning

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

4 FOR the purpose of establishing a program of county aid to certain audiologists and
5 speech-language pathologists who provide third-party billing services in
6 schools; requiring the county board 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 county board 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 2005 Supplement)

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

1

Article - Education

2 6-112.1.

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

5 (B) THERE IS A PROGRAM OF COUNTY AID TO AUDIOLOGISTS AND
6 SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGISTS WHO:

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

9 (2) ARE LICENSED BY THE BOARD.

10 (C) EACH AUDIOLOGIST AND SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST WHO MEETS
11 THE REQUIREMENTS OF SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION SHALL RECEIVE FROM
12 THE COUNTY BOARD AN AMOUNT EQUAL TO THE INITIAL LICENSING FEE OR
13 RENEWAL OF LICENSE FEE CHARGED BY THE BOARD.

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

16 (E) AN AUDIOLOGIST OR SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST SHALL
17 REIMBURSE THE COUNTY BOARD THE FULL AMOUNT OF THE AID RECEIVED IF THE
18 AUDIOLOGIST OR SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST DOES NOT:

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

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

23 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
24 July 1, 2006.