Chapter 909

(House Bill 1476)

AN ACT concerning

State Board of Examiners for Audiologists, Hearing Aid Dispensers, Speech–Language Pathologists, and Music Therapists – Appointment of Members

FOR the purpose of requiring the Governor to appoint licensed audiologist members to the State Board of Examiners for Audiologists, Hearing Aid Dispensers, Speech–Language Pathologists, and Music Therapists from a list submitted by a certain professional organization rather than by the Board; and generally relating to the appointment of members to the State Board of Examiners for Audiologists, Hearing Aid Dispensers, Speech–Language Pathologists, and Music Therapists.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
    Article – Health Occupations
    Section 2–202(a)(1) and (2)(i)
    Annotated Code of Maryland
    (2021 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
    Article – Health Occupations
    Section 2–202(a)(5)
    Annotated Code of Maryland
    (2021 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

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

Article – Health Occupations

2–202.

    (a)   (1)   The Board consists of 15 members.

        (2)   Of the 15 Board members:

            (i)   3 shall be licensed audiologists who have at least 5 years' paid work experience in audiology and are currently practicing audiology in the State;

            (5)   (i)   Subject to subparagraph (iii) of this paragraph, the Governor shall appoint the audiologist members, with the advice of the Secretary, from a list submitted to the Secretary and the Governor by the **[**Board**]** **MARYLAND ACADEMY OF**

AUDIOLOGY.

(ii)   The number of names on the list shall be at least 3 times the number of vacancies.

(iii)   For each audiologist vacancy, the Board shall notify all licensed audiologists in the State of the vacancy to solicit nominations to fill the vacancy.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2024.

Approved by the Governor, May 16, 2024.