Late Written Testimony



February 9, 2023

The Honorable Ariana Kelly Maryland General Assembly 241 Taylor House Office Building 6 Bladen Street Annapolis, MD 21401 The Honorable Dawn Gile Maryland General Assembly 3 East Miller Senate Office Building 11 Bladen Street Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: HB 401/SB 449

Dear Delegate Kelly and Senator Gile:

On behalf of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, I write to support HB 401/SB 449, which amends definitions in the audiology practice act.

The American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) is the national professional, scientific, and credentialing association for 223,000 members and affiliates who are audiologists; speech-language pathologists; speech, language, and hearing scientists; audiology and speech-language pathology support personnel; and students. Over 4,100 ASHA members reside in Maryland.¹

We appreciate your amendments to HB 401/SB 449 to address our earlier concerns. If you or your staff have any questions, please contact Susan Adams, ASHA's director of state legislative and regulatory affairs, at <u>sadams@asha.org.</u>

Sincerely,

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Robert M. Augustine, PhD, CCC-SLP 2023 ASHA President

¹ American Speech-Language-Hearing Association. (2022). *Maryland* [Quick Facts]. <u>https://www.asha.org/siteassets/advocacy/state-fliers/maryland-state-flyer.pdf</u>