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Chair Joseline A. Pena-Melnyk
House Health & Government Operations Committee
Taylor House Office Building, Room 241
6 Bladen Street
Annapolis, MD 21401
RE: HB401 Practice Audiology – Definition

Position: **SUPPORT**

Madam Chair Peña-Melnyk, Vice Chair Ariana Kelly, and Committee Members,

- (1) Audiology is an essential medical discipline. Applying the all principles, methods and procedures of measurement, ordering, amplification, evaluation, diagnosing, managing and treating any auditory or vestibular condition in the human ear.
- (2) Audiology medical professionals practicing should include the fitting, selling of prescriptive amplification, ordering-fitting-selling and dispensing hearing aids, osseo-integrated devices for individuals to enhance and augment the ability to communicate.
- (3) Except as otherwise provided in this title, an audiologist shall be licensed by the Board of Examiners to practice audiology, diagnose medical conditions of the human ear, refer to other medical professionals, prescribe, fit, and provide counseling, provide safety recommendation, and use of hearing aids. Finally, assist in the practices of speech language pathology and music therapy in this state.
- (4) Section 3. And be further enacted. That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2023.

Thank you for your time and patience. Your consideration is greatly appreciated.

Respectfully,

Dr. Roni E. Dinkes, Au.D