

January 28, 2025

The Honorable Chair Joseline A. Pena-Melnyk, Chair House Government Operations (HGO) Committee
Room 241
House Office Building Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: **HB 406** State Board of Examiners for Audiologists, Hearing Aid Dispensers, Speech-Language Pathologists, and Music Therapists - Appointment of Members and Quorum
Position: **LETTER OF INFORMATION**

Madam Chair Pena-Melnyk, Vice Chair Cullison, and Committee Members:

I am writing to provide information regarding my personal experience applying to serve on the State Board of Examiners for Audiologists, Hearing Aid Dispensers, Speech-Language Pathologists and Music Therapists, as an audiologist. Please note that I am providing this information as an audiologist in the State of Maryland, not as a Board of Examiner member.

On October 23, 2024, I was contacted by Alicia D.D. Spoor, Au.D., Legislative Chair for the Maryland Academy of Audiology (MAA). During our conversation, she inquired about my interest in serving on the Board of Examiners to fill a vacant audiologist seat. After carefully evaluating my professional and personal responsibilities, I informed Dr. Spoor that I would submit my name for consideration.

With the support of the MAA, I prepared and submitted my resume and letter of intent. The MAA also served as a communication liaison, assisting me in submitting my materials through the Governor's portal. On November 19, 2024, the Board of Examiners' Executive Director informed me that I had been selected by the Governor to fill the vacant audiologist seat. Although I attended the November 2024 Board of Examiners meeting, I was officially sworn in after the meeting concluded.

This opportunity would not have been possible without the encouragement and assistance of Dr. Spoor and the Maryland Academy of Audiology. Their guidance played a critical role in my decision to apply and navigate the process. It's also worth noting that I was not, nor am currently a MAA member.

I hope this letter provides useful insights to improve and streamline the overall process for future candidates.

Best Regards,

Crystal M. Courtney, Au.D.
Board Certified in Audiology Maryland License #01335