



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Wes Moore, Governor · Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor · Meena Seshamani, M.D., Ph.D., Secretary

Board of Examiners for Audiologists,
Hearing Aid Dispensers, Speech-Language
Pathologists & Music Therapists
4201 Patterson Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21215

2026 SESSION POSITION PAPER

BILL NO: HB 7
COMMITTEE: Health
POSITION: Support

TITLE: State Board of Examiners for Audiologists, Hearing Aid Dispensers, Speech-Language Pathologists, and Music Therapists – Authority to Issue Limited Licenses to Practice Music Therapy

BILL ANALYSIS: HB 7 proposes to authorize the State Board of Examiners for Audiologists, Hearing Aid Dispensers, Speech–Language Pathologists, and Music Therapists (the “Board”) to issue a limited license to practice music therapy.

POSITION AND RATIONALE: The Board supports HB 7.

The proposed bill will provide further consistency throughout the Board. Each of the Board’s disciplines currently offer both full and limited licensure. Full supervision is in place during the entire period of limited licensure, allowing for a thorough and accountable training experience.

Most importantly, in cases of Practice Act violations, disciplinary action can only be enforced to existing license holders. Therefore, limited licensure provides the necessary protections for the citizens of our State.

For the above stated reasons, the Board respectfully requests a favorable report on HB 7.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Should you require any further information, please contact Keena Stephenson, Executive Director, at keena.stephenson1@maryland.gov or (443) 832-0597, or Lillian Reese, Legislative Liaison, at lillian.reese@maryland.gov, or 443-794-4757.

The opinion of the Board expressed in this document do not necessarily reflect that of the Department of Health or the Administration.