

SENATE, No. 539

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED JANUARY 29, 1996

By Senator KYRILLOS

1 AN ACT establishing a State board of audiology, speech-language
2 pathology and hearing aid dispensing, supplementing Title 45 of the
3 Revised Statutes and revising and repealing parts of the statutory
4 law.

5

6 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
7 of New Jersey:

8

9 1. (New section) The Legislature finds and declares that the
10 practices of audiology, speech-language pathology and hearing aid
11 dispensing, presently regulated by the Audiology and
12 Speech-Language Pathology Advisory Committee and the Hearing Aid
13 Dispensers Examining Committee, respectively, need continued
14 regulation for the protection of the health, safety and welfare of the
15 citizens of this State. The Legislature further finds and declares that
16 this purpose will best be served by the establishment of a single
17 regulatory authority, to be known as the State Board of Audiology,
18 Speech-Language Pathology and Hearing Aid Dispensing, to replace
19 the aforesaid Committees for the purposes of licensing practitioners of
20 the subject professions and enforcing certain standards to ensure the
21 competency and ethical conduct of these licensees.

22

23 2. (New section) As used in this act:

24 "Audiologist" means a person who practices audiology and who
25 represents himself to the public by title or by description of services,
26 under any title incorporating such terms as "audiology," "audiologist,"
27 "audiological," "audiologic," "hearing clinic," "hearing clinician,"
28 "hearing therapist," or any similar title or description of services,
29 provided that he has met the eligibility requirements contained in
30 section 8 of this act and has been duly licensed under this act.

31 "Board" means the Board of Audiology, Speech-Language
32 Pathology and Hearing Aid Dispensing created by section 3 of this act.

33 "Director" means the Director of the Division of Consumer Affairs
34 in the Department of Law and Public Safety.

EXPLANATION - Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 "Hearing aid dispenser" means a person, other than an audiologist
2 licensed pursuant to the provisions of this act, who is engaged in the
3 fitting and selling of hearing aids to a person with impaired hearing.

4 "Person" means any individual, corporation, partnership, trust,
5 association or other organization, except that only individuals may be
6 licensed under this act.

7 "Practice of audiology" means the nonmedical and nonsurgical
8 application of principles, methods, and procedures of measurement,
9 testing, evaluation, prediction, consultation, counseling, instruction,
10 and habilitation or rehabilitation related to hearing, its disorders and
11 related communication impairments for the purpose of nonmedical
12 diagnosis, prevention, identification, amelioration or modification of
13 these disorders and conditions in individuals or groups of individuals
14 with speech, language or hearing handicaps, or to individuals or
15 groups of individuals for whom these handicapping conditions must be
16 ruled out. The practice of audiology includes:

17 (1) The facilitation of the conservation of auditory system function
18 and the development and implementation of environmental and
19 occupational hearing conservation programs;

20 (2) The screening, identification, assessment and interpretation,
21 diagnosis, prevention and rehabilitation of peripheral and central
22 auditory system dysfunctions; and cerumen management;

23 (3) The provision and interpretation of behavioral and (electro)
24 physiological measurements and vestibular function testing;

25 (4) The practice of dispensing and fitting hearing aids and other
26 amplification, assistive listening and alerting devices and the provision
27 of training to patients in their use; provided, however, that an
28 audiologist who was not licensed to dispense and fit hearing aids
29 pursuant to any state law prior to the effective date of this act shall not
30 perform the activities set forth in this paragraph until such time as he
31 is specifically licensed to do so in accordance with regulations to be
32 adopted by the board pursuant to subsection a. of section 16 of this
33 act.

34 (5) The provision of aural rehabilitation and related counseling
35 services to hearing impaired individuals and their families; and

36 (6) The screening of speech-language and other factors affecting
37 communication function for the purposes of an audiologic evaluation
38 or initial identification of individuals with other communication
39 disorders, or both.

40 "Practice of dispensing and fitting hearing aids" means the
41 evaluation or measurement of the power or range of human hearing by
42 means of an audiometer or by any other means devised and the
43 consequent selection of adaption or sale of hearing aids intended to
44 compensate for hearing loss, including the making of an impression of
45 the ear.

46 "Practice of speech-language pathology" means the nonmedical and

1 nonsurgical application of principles, methods, and procedures of
2 measurement, testing, evaluation, prediction, consultation, counseling,
3 instruction, and habilitation or rehabilitation and instruction related to
4 the development and disorders of speech, voice, oral-pharyngeal motor
5 dysfunction and language for the purpose of preventing, ameliorating
6 and modifying these disorders and conditions in individuals or groups
7 of individuals with speech, language, oral-pharyngeal motor
8 dysfunction, or hearing handicaps, or to individuals or groups of
9 individuals for whom these handicapping conditions must be ruled out.

10 The practice of speech-language pathology includes:

11 (1) The screening, identification, assessment and interpretation,
12 diagnosis, rehabilitation, and prevention of disorders of speech (such
13 as articulation, fluency, voice) and language;

14 (2) The screening, identification, assessment and interpretation,
15 diagnosis, and rehabilitation of disorders of oral-pharyngeal function
16 (such as dysphagia) and related disorders;

17 (3) The screening, identification, assessment and interpretation,
18 diagnosis, and rehabilitation of cognitive/communication disorders;

19 (4) The assessment, selection and development of augmentative
20 and alternative communication systems and the provision of training
21 in their use;

22 (5) The provision of aural rehabilitation and related counseling
23 services to hearing impaired individuals and their families;

24 (6) The enhancement of speech-language proficiency and
25 communication effectiveness, through techniques such as accent
26 reduction; and

27 (7) The screening of hearing and other factors for the purpose of
28 speech-language evaluation and/or the initial identification of
29 individuals with other communication disorders.

30 "Speech-language pathologist" means an individual who practices
31 speech-language pathology and who represents himself to the public
32 by title or by description of services under any title incorporating such
33 terms as "speech-language pathology," "speech-language pathologist,"
34 "speech-language specialist," "speech pathology," "speech
35 pathologist," "speech correction," "speech correctionist," "speech
36 therapy," "speech therapist," "speech clinic," "speech clinician,"
37 "logopedist," "communicologist," "language therapist,"
38 "communication disorders specialist," "communication specialist,"
39 "communication therapist," or any similar title or description of
40 services, provided that the individual has met the eligibility
41 requirements contained in section 8 and has been licensed under this
42 act.

43

44 3. (New section) There is created in the Division of Consumer
45 Affairs in the Department of Law and Public Safety the State Board of
46 Audiology, Speech-Language Pathology and Hearing Aid Dispensing,

1 which shall be responsible for the licensure of audiologists,
2 speech-language pathologists and hearing aid dispensers.

3

4 4. (New section) The board shall consists of eleven residents of
5 this State who shall be appointed by the Governor. Two members
6 shall be audiologists, two members shall be speech-language
7 pathologists, and two members shall be hearing aid dispensers not
8 licensed to practice audiology under any prior or current law in any
9 state. Two members shall be persons who are licensed to practice
10 medicine and surgery by this State, one of whom shall be a diplomate
11 of the American Board of Otolaryngology or the American
12 Osteopathic Board of Otolaryngology, and one of whom shall be a
13 diplomate of the American Academy of Family Practice. Two
14 members shall be public members and one member shall be a State
15 Executive department member appointed pursuant to the provisions of
16 P.L.1971, c.60 (C.45:1-2.1 et seq.).

17 Each non-public member of the board shall hold a valid New Jersey
18 license to practice and have had at least five years' experience in his or
19 her profession, and shall be actively engaged in the practice of their
20 profession at the time of appointment.

21

22 5. (New section) Each member of the board, except the members
23 first appointed, shall serve for a term of five years and shall hold office
24 until the appointment and qualification of his successor. The initial
25 appointments to the board shall be two members for a term of two
26 years, two members for a term of three years, three members for terms
27 of four years and four members for terms of five years.

28 Vacancies shall be filled for the unexpired terms only. No member
29 may be appointed for more than two consecutive terms, nor serve on
30 the board for more than 10 consecutive years.

31

32 6. (New section) The members of the board, before entering the
33 discharge of their duties, and within 30 days after their appointment,
34 shall take and subscribe to an oath before an officer authorized to
35 administer oaths in this State for the faithful performance of their
36 duties and file the oath with the Secretary of State. The members of
37 the board shall annually elect from their number a president and a
38 secretary-treasurer, each of whom shall hold office for one year and
39 until his successor shall have been elected and qualified.

40 Regular meetings of the board shall be held at such times and places
41 as it prescribes and special meetings may be held upon the call of the
42 president. At least one regular meeting shall be held each year.

43

44 7. (New section) The board shall have the following powers and
45 duties:

46 a. To establish minimum requirements for the licensure of

- 1 audiologists, speech-language pathologists and hearing aid dispensers;
2 b. To evaluate the qualifications of applicants for licensure as
3 audiologists, speech-language pathologists and hearing aid dispensers
4 and to supervise the examination of applicants;
5 c. To establish standards of professional conduct for licensed
6 audiologists, speech-language pathologists and hearing aid dispensers;
7 d. To establish standards, guidelines and procedures for the
8 completion of clinical internships;
9 e. To establish basic requirements for continuing education; and
10 f. To do any and all other things which may be appropriate to
11 achieve the objectives contemplated by this act, or which may be
12 useful in executing any of the duties, powers or functions of the board.
13
- 14 8. (New section) a. To be eligible for a license to practice
15 audiology, or speech-language pathology, an applicant shall:
16 (1) Possess at least a master's degree or its equivalent in the area
17 of audiology or speech-language pathology from an accredited college
18 or university acceptable to the Commission on Higher Education;
19 (2) Have the amount of formal training, including any hours of
20 academic courses and clinical practice, in any areas of study as the
21 board deems necessary and appropriate and which shall not be
22 substantially inconsistent with current nationally recognized
23 professional standards;
24 (3) Complete a clinical internship in the professional area for which
25 the license is sought in accordance with the standards, guidelines or
26 procedures for clinical internships which may be established by the
27 board. The clinical internship shall not be substantially inconsistent
28 with currently recognized national professional standards and shall be
29 under the direct supervision of a person who is: (a) licensed to
30 practice speech-language pathology or audiology, as appropriate, by
31 this State or by another state which has standards substantially
32 equivalent to those of this State; (b) in a state without licensure laws,
33 provided that the supervisor shows evidence of credentials equivalent
34 to the requirements for licensure under this act; or (c) in this State
35 practicing in an exempt setting, provided that the supervisor shows
36 evidence of credentials equivalent to the requirements for licensure
37 under this act.
38 (4) Pass any examination for licensure which may be approved and
39 required by the board, which examination shall be given at least once
40 a year.
- 41 b. To be eligible for a hearing aid dispenser's license, an applicant
42 shall:
43 (1) Be at least 18 years of age and possess a high school diploma
44 or the equivalent thereof;
45 (2) Have the amount of formal education, training and supervision

1 in the dispensing of hearing aids as the board deems necessary and
2 appropriate;

3 (3) Pass any examination for licensure which may be approved and
4 required by the board, and which shall be given at least once a year.

5

6 9. (New section) The board shall issue a license to practice
7 audiology or speech-language pathology, or to dispense hearing aids
8 to all applicants who meet the qualifications established for licensure.
9 Licenses shall be effective for a period not to exceed two years and
10 may be renewed biennially.

11 Licensure shall be granted independently in audiology,
12 speech-language pathology, or hearing aid dispensing. A person may
13 be licensed in one or more of these areas if he is qualified.

14

15 10. (New section) The board shall accept, in lieu of an
16 examination, proof that an applicant for licensure holds a current
17 license in a state which has standards substantially equivalent to those
18 of this State.

19

20 11. (New section) a. The board shall issue a temporary license to
21 any person who has applied for licensure as an audiologist or
22 speech-language pathologist, or both, as the case may be; who has
23 satisfactorily met the licensing requirements of paragraphs (1) and (2)
24 of subsection a. of section 8 of this act; and who is participating in a
25 clinical internship required for licensure pursuant to paragraph (3) of
26 subsection a. of section 8 of this act. The temporary license shall be
27 effective only during the clinical internship period not to exceed 18
28 months, and shall not be renewed except in accordance with
29 regulations to be adopted by the board.

30 b. The board shall issue temporary hearing aid dispenser licenses
31 in accordance with the following provisions:

32 (1) An applicant for licensure as a hearing aid dispenser who fulfills
33 the requirements of subsection b. of section 8 of this act who has not
34 previously applied to take the examination provided under paragraph
35 (3) of subsection b. of section 8 of this act may apply to the board for
36 a temporary license.

37 (a) Upon receiving an application for a temporary license,
38 accompanied by the appropriate fee as determined by the board, the
39 board shall issue a temporary license which shall entitle the applicant
40 to practice the dispensing of hearing aids for a period ending 30 days
41 after the conclusion of the next examination given after the date of
42 issuance.

43 (b) No temporary license shall be issued by the board unless the
44 applicant shows to the satisfaction of the board that he is or will be
45 supervised and trained by a person who holds a valid license or
46 certificate of endorsement issued pursuant to this act.

1 (c) If a person who holds a temporary license issued under this
2 section does not take the next examination given after the date of
3 issuance, the temporary license shall not be renewed, except for good
4 cause shown to the satisfaction of the board.

5 (d) If a person who holds a temporary license issued under this
6 section takes and fails to pass the next examination given after the date
7 of issuance, the board may renew the temporary license for a period
8 ending 30 days after the results of the next examination given after the
9 date of renewal are announced. In no event shall more than one
10 renewal pursuant to this subparagraph be permitted. The fee for such
11 renewal shall be determined by the board.

12 (2) An applicant for licensure as a hearing aid dispenser who meets
13 the requirements of subsection b. of section 8 of this act except with
14 respect to training and experience, but who wants to obtain the
15 requisite training and experience in order to qualify for a license and
16 who proves to the satisfaction of the board that he will be directly
17 supervised and trained by a person who holds a valid license or
18 certificate of endorsement issued pursuant to this act, may have a
19 temporary license issued to him which shall entitle him to engage,
20 under such direct supervision, in the dispensing of hearing aids for a
21 period ending 30 days after the results of the next examination are
22 announced. A temporary license issued pursuant to this paragraph
23 may be renewed from period to period not to exceed two consecutive
24 years.

25
26 12. (New section) No person shall practice or hold himself out as
27 being able to practice audiology, speech-language pathology or
28 hearing aid dispensing in this State unless he is licensed in accordance
29 with the provisions of this act.

30
31 13. (New section) The provisions of this act shall not apply to:

32 a. The activities and services of any person who is licensed to
33 practice medicine and surgery by this State, provided that such a
34 person is not referred to as an audiologist, speech-language
35 pathologist, or hearing aid dispenser;

36 b. The activities, services, and use of an official title on the part of
37 a person in the employ of a federal agency, as such services are part
38 of the duties of his office or position with that agency, or any person
39 certified by the State Board of Examiners in the Department of
40 Education as a speech correctionist or a speech-language specialist;
41 provided however, that no person shall be exempt under this
42 subsection for that portion of his time spent as a private practitioner
43 of audiology or speech-language pathology or hearing aid dispenser.
44 If he does any work as an audiologist, speech-language pathologist or
45 hearing aid dispenser for which a fee may be paid by a recipient of the
46 service or as part of a private practice apart from his position with the

1 government agency, he shall hold a valid and current license therefor;

2 c. The activities and services of a student, fellow or trainee in
3 audiology, speech-language pathology or hearing aid dispensing
4 pursuing a course of study of an accredited university, college or other
5 institution which may be approved by the board for this purpose, or
6 working in a recognized training center, if these activities and services
7 constitute a part of his course of study under a supervisor licensed in
8 audiology, speech-language pathology or hearing aid dispensing;

9 d. The activities and services within the scope of practice of any
10 person who is registered, certified or licensed in this State under any
11 other law to engage in the profession or occupation for which he is
12 registered, certified or licensed.

13

14 14. (New section) All applicants for license renewal shall submit
15 to the board evidence of satisfactory completion of any continuing
16 education requirements that the board shall adopt by regulation.

17 The board shall notify each licensed individual of any failure to
18 comply with this requirement, and shall further notify him that upon
19 continued failure to comply within 3 months of the date of the notice,
20 the board may, in its discretion, take action, pursuant to P.L.1978,
21 c.73 (C.45:1-14 et seq.), to suspend or revoke the license.

22

23 15. (New section) Every licensed audiologist, speech-language
24 pathologist and hearing aid dispenser commencing to practice in this
25 State shall notify the board of his office address, and shall promptly
26 notify the board of any change in his office address. The board shall
27 annually publish complete lists of the names and office addresses of all
28 audiologists, speech-language pathologists and hearing aid dispensers
29 licensed and practicing in this State. The list shall be arranged
30 alphabetically by name and also by the names of the municipalities in
31 which the various offices are situated.

32

33 16. (New section) The board shall adopt, amend or repeal any
34 regulations, consistent with the policy and objectives of this act, as it
35 may deem appropriate or necessary for the public interest, in
36 accordance with the provisions of the "Administrative Procedure Act,"
37 P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.). The regulations shall include:

38 a. Educational, training, licensure and examination requirements
39 for audiologists not previously licensed to dispense and fit hearing aids
40 pursuant to any prior law of this State who seek to perform the
41 activities set forth in paragraph (4) of the definition of the practice of
42 audiology in section 2 of this act;

43 b. Directives concerning the public use of professional titles and
44 certifications, and educational degrees by audiologists,
45 speech-language pathologists and hearing aid dispensers, including the
46 differentiation between audiologists who are licensed to perform the

1 activities set forth in paragraph (4) of the definition of the practice of
2 audiology in section 2 of this act, and those who are not.

3
4 17. (New section) There shall be an Executive Director of the
5 board appointed by the director who shall serve at the director's
6 pleasure. The director shall also be empowered to hire any assistants
7 as are necessary to administer this act. The salary of the Executive
8 Director and the hiring of assistants shall be in accordance with the
9 provisions of section 2 of P.L.1977, c.285 (C.45:1-2.5) and
10 R.S.45:1-3.

11
12 18. (New section) The following provisions shall apply to the
13 selection, fitting and sale of all hearing aids within this State, whether
14 by a licensed audiologist or a licensed hearing aid dispenser, or as
15 specified hereunder:

16 a. The licensee shall advise a prospective hearing aid user at the
17 outset of their relationship that any examination or representation
18 made by the licensee in connection with the selection, fitting and sale
19 of a hearing aid is not an examination, diagnosis or prescription by a
20 person licensed to practice medicine in this State, or by a licensed
21 audiologist if the licensee is a hearing aid dispenser, and, therefore,
22 must not be regarded as a medical opinion or an audiological opinion,
23 as the case may be.

24 b. Prior to the delivery of services or products to a prospective
25 purchaser, the licensee shall disclose to the prospective purchaser an
26 itemized listing of prices, which listing shall include separate price
27 estimates for each service component and each product. Provision of
28 such itemized listing of prices shall not be predicated on the
29 prospective purchaser's payment of any charge or agreement to
30 purchase any service or product. Notice of the availability of this
31 service shall be displayed in a conspicuous manner in the licensee's
32 office.

33 c. The licensee shall, upon the consummation of a sale of a hearing
34 aid, deliver to the purchaser a written receipt, signed by or on behalf
35 of the licensee, containing all of the following:

36 (1) the date of consummation of the sale;

37 (2) an itemization of the total purchase price if requested by the
38 purchaser, including, but not limited to, the cost of the aid, ear mold,
39 batteries and other accessories, and any services;

40 (3) specifications as to make, serial number, and model number of
41 the hearing aid or aids sold;

42 (4) the address of the principal place of business of the licensee;

43 (5) a statement that the aid or aids delivered to the purchaser are
44 new, used or reconditioned, as the case may be;

45 (6) the number of the licensee's license;

46 (7) the terms of any guarantee or express warranty, if any, made to

1 the purchaser with respect to a hearing aid or hearing aids;

2 (8) a statement that any complaint concerning the hearing aid and
3 guarantee therefor, if not reconciled with the licensee from whom the
4 hearing aid was purchased, should be directed by the purchaser to the
5 board, the address and telephone number of which shall be stated on
6 the receipt.

7 (9) the following statement, either set forth on the receipt itself or
8 attached to it, in type no smaller than the largest used in the body copy
9 portion:

10 The purchaser has been advised at the outset of his relationship
11 with the licensee that any examination or representation made by
12 a licensee in connection with the selection, fitting and sale of
13 hearing aids is not an examination, diagnosis, or prescription by
14 a person licensed to practice medicine in this State, or, if the
15 licensee is a hearing aid dispenser, by a licensed audiologist and
16 therefore must not be regarded as medical opinion or as
17 audiological opinion, as the case may be.

18 d. Whenever any of the following conditions are found to exist
19 either from observations by the licensee or on the basis of information
20 furnished by the prospective hearing aid user, the licensee shall, prior
21 to selecting, fitting and selling a hearing aid to any individual, suggest
22 to that individual in writing that his best interests would be served if
23 he would consult a licensed physician specializing in diseases of the ear
24 or if no such licensed physician is available in the community, then a
25 duly licensed physician. If, however, the prospective hearing aid user
26 has been referred to the licensee by a licensed physician, the licensee
27 shall, prior to selecting, fitting and selling a hearing aid to that
28 individual, suggest to him in writing that he consult the referring
29 physician. The conditions which shall give rise to the foregoing
30 requirements are:

31 (1) visible congenital or traumatic deformity of the ear:

32 (2) a history of, or active drainage from the ear within the previous
33 90 days;

34 (3) a history of sudden or rapidly progressive hearing loss within
35 the previous 90 days;

36 (4) acute or chronic dizziness;

37 (5) unilateral hearing loss of sudden or recent onset within the
38 previous 90 days; or

39 (6) significant air-bone gap.

40 e. A person receiving the written recommendation to purchase a
41 hearing aid shall sign a receipt for the same.

42 f. The licensee shall provide the prospective hearing aid user with
43 a list of at least three physicians specializing in diseases of the ear,
44 practicing in the area, and their addresses or if none are practicing in
45 the area, then a list of at least three physicians and their addresses;
46 provided, however, that this requirement shall not apply if the

1 prospective hearing aid user has already been referred to the licensee
2 by a licensed physician.

3 g. No hearing aid shall be sold by a hearing aid dispenser licensed
4 under this act to a person less than 18 years of age unless within the
5 preceding 6 months a recommendation for a hearing aid has been made
6 by a board-certified, or board-eligible physician specializing in
7 otolaryngology, or by a licensed audiologist after examination and
8 diagnosis by a board-certified or board-eligible otolaryngologist. A
9 replacement of an identical hearing aid within one year of original
10 delivery to the hearing aid user shall be an exception to this
11 requirement.

12

13 19. (New section) All licenses and permits for the practices of
14 audiology, speech-language pathology and the dispensing of hearing
15 aids used by an authorized board or committee pursuant to any State
16 law prior to the effective date of this act shall be deemed to have been
17 issued by the board and shall remain valid until the expiration of the
18 term for which they were originally issued.

19

20 20. Section 1 of P.L.1971, c.60 (C.45:1-2.1) is amended to read as
21 follows:

22 1. The provisions of this act shall apply to the following boards and
23 commissions: the New Jersey State Board of Accountancy, the New
24 Jersey State Board of Architects, the New Jersey State Board of
25 Cosmetology and Hairstyling, the Board of Examiners of Electrical
26 Contractors, the New Jersey State Board of Dentistry, the State Board
27 of Mortuary Science of New Jersey, the State Board of Professional
28 Engineers and Land Surveyors, the State Board of Marriage Counselor
29 Examiners, the State Board of Medical Examiners, the New Jersey
30 Board of Nursing, the New Jersey State Board of Optometrists, the
31 State Board of Examiners of Ophthalmic Dispensers and Ophthalmic
32 Technicians, the Board of Pharmacy, the State Board of Professional
33 Planners, the State Board of Psychological Examiners, the State Board
34 of Examiners of Master Plumbers, the New Jersey Real Estate
35 Commission, the State Board of Shorthand Reporting, the State Board
36 of Veterinary Medical Examiners, the Radiologic Technology Board
37 of Examiners, the Acupuncture Examining Board, the State Board of
38 Chiropractic Examiners, the State Board of Respiratory Care, the
39 State Real Estate Appraiser Board, the State Board of Social Work
40 Examiners, [and] the State Board of Public Movers and
41 Warehousemen, and the State Board of Audiology, Speech-Language
42 Pathology and Hearing Aid Dispensing.

43 (cf: P.L.1993, c.365, s.18)

44

45 21. Section 1 of P.L.1974, c.46 (C.45:1-3.1) is amended to read as
46 follows:

1 1. The provisions of this act shall apply to the following boards and
2 commissions: the New Jersey State Board of Accountancy, the New
3 Jersey State Board of Architects, the New Jersey State Board of
4 Cosmetology and Hairstyling, the Board of Examiners of Electrical
5 Contractors, the New Jersey State Board of Dentistry, the State Board
6 of Mortuary Science of New Jersey, the State Board of Professional
7 Engineers and Land Surveyors, the State Board of Marriage Counselor
8 Examiners, the State Board of Medical Examiners, the New Jersey
9 Board of Nursing, the New Jersey State Board of Optometrists, the
10 State Board of Examiners of Ophthalmic Dispensers and Ophthalmic
11 Technicians, the Board of Pharmacy, the State Board of Professional
12 Planners, the State Board of Psychological Examiners, the State Board
13 of Examiners of Master Plumbers, the State Board of Shorthand
14 Reporting, the State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners, the
15 Radiologic Technology Board of Examiners, the Acupuncture
16 Examining Board, the State Board of Chiropractic Examiners, the
17 State Board of Respiratory Care, the State Real Estate Appraiser
18 Board, [and] the State Board of Social Work Examiners, and the State
19 Board of Audiology, Speech Language Pathology and Hearing Aid
20 Dispensing.
21 (cf: P.L.1991, c.134, s.17)

22
23 22. Section 2 of P.L.1978, c.73 (C.45:1-15) is amended to read as
24 follows:

25 2. The provisions of this act shall apply to the following boards and
26 all professions or occupations regulated by or through such boards:
27 the New Jersey State Board of Accountancy, the New Jersey State
28 Board of Architects, the New Jersey State Board of Cosmetology and
29 Hairstyling, the Board of Examiners of Electrical Contractors, the
30 New Jersey State Board of Dentistry, the State Board of Mortuary
31 Science of New Jersey, the State Board of Professional Engineers and
32 Land Surveyors, the State Board of Marriage Counselor Examiners,
33 the State Board of Medical Examiners, the New Jersey Board of
34 Nursing, the New Jersey State Board of Optometrists, the State Board
35 of Examiners of Ophthalmic Dispensers and Ophthalmic Technicians,
36 the Board of Pharmacy, the State Board of Professional Planners, the
37 State Board of Psychological Examiners, the State Board of Examiners
38 of Master Plumbers, the State Board of Shorthand Reporting, the
39 State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners, the Acupuncture
40 Examining Board, the State Board of Chiropractic Examiners, the
41 State Board of Respiratory Care, the State Real Estate Appraiser
42 Board, [and] the State Board of Social Work Examiners, and the State
43 Board of Audiology, Speech-Language Pathology and Hearing Aid
44 Dispensing.
45 (cf: P.L.1991, c.134, s.14)

1 23. P.L.1983, c.420 (C.45:3B-1 et seq.) and P.L.1973, c.19
2 (C.45:9A-1 et seq.) are repealed.

3
4 24. This act shall not affect the orders, rules and regulations
5 promulgated by the director or any authorized board or committee
6 concerning the practices of audiology or speech-language pathology,
7 or the dispensing and fitting of hearing aids, which are consistent with
8 the provisions of this act, but any such orders, rules and regulations
9 shall continue in full force and effect until amended, modified or
10 repealed by the board.

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12 25. This act shall take effect on the 180th day following enactment.

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15 STATEMENT

16
17 This bill creates the State Board of Audiology, Speech-Language
18 Pathology and Hearing Aid Dispensing within the Division of
19 Consumer Affairs in the Department of Law and Public Safety. The
20 board shall be responsible for the licensure of audiologists,
21 speech-language pathologists and hearing aid dispensers. The bill sets
22 standards for the licensure and regulation of these professions by the
23 board.

24 The bill repeals the existing laws regulating hearing aid dispensers
25 and audiologists and speech-language pathologists, and provides for
26 the regulation of these professions under one board.

27 The bill makes the new board and those licensed by it subject to the
28 uniform enforcement, administration and licensing provisions of
29 chapter 1 of Title 45 of the Revised Statutes.

30
31
32
33
34 Establishes a State Board of Audiology, Speech-Language Pathology
35 and Hearing Aid Dispensing.