

LFC Requestor: Self Assigned

2025 LEGISLATIVE SESSION
AGENCY BILL ANALYSIS

Section I: General

Chamber: House

Category: Bill

Number: 79

Type: Introduced

Date (of THIS analysis): 1/22/25

Sponsor(s): Elizabeth "Liz" Thomson

Short Title: ENACTING THE AUDIOLOGY AND SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY INTERSTATE COMPACT

Reviewing Agency: Agency 665 - Department of Health

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Section II: Fiscal Impact

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation Contained		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY 25	FY 26		
\$0	\$0	N/A	N/A

REVENUE (dollars in thousands)

Estimated Revenue			Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY 25	FY 26	FY 27		
\$0	\$0	\$0	N/A	N/A

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY 25	FY 26	FY 27	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Non-recurring	Fund Affected
Total	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	N/A	N/A

Section III: Relationship to other legislation

Duplicates: None

Conflicts with: None

Companion to: None

Relates to: None

Duplicates/Relates to an Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act:

Section IV: Narrative

1. BILL SUMMARY

a) Synopsis

House Bill 79 (HB79) proposes to facilitate interstate practice of occupational therapy with the goal of improving public access to audiology and speech-language pathology services.

Objectives include: increase public access to occupational therapy services by providing for the mutual recognition of other member state licenses; enhance the states' ability to protect public health and safety; encourage the cooperation of member states in regulating multistate audiology and speech-language pathology services; support spouses of relocating military members; enhance the exchange of licensure, investigative and disciplinary information between member states; and allow a remote state to hold a provider of services with a compact privilege in that state accountable to that state's practice standards; and facilitate the use of telehealth technology in order to increase access to audiology and speech-language pathology services.

Is this an amendment or substitution? Yes No

Is there an emergency clause? Yes No

b) Significant Issues

HB79 would expand access to audiology and speech-language pathology services providers that meet licensure requirements.

Department of Health facilities utilize audiology and speech-language pathology services and would have increased access to providers supporting resident and patient needs.

2. PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

- Does this bill impact the current delivery of NMDOH services or operations?

Yes No

- Is this proposal related to the NMDOH Strategic Plan? Yes No

Goal 1: We expand equitable access to services for all New Mexicans

- Goal 2:** We ensure safety in New Mexico healthcare environments
- Goal 3:** We improve health status for all New Mexicans
- Goal 4:** We support each other by promoting an environment of mutual respect, trust, open communication, and needed resources for staff to serve New Mexicans and to grow and reach their professional goals

3. FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

- If there is an appropriation, is it included in the Executive Budget Request?
 Yes No N/A
- If there is an appropriation, is it included in the LFC Budget Request?
 Yes No N/A
- Does this bill have a fiscal impact on NMDOH? Yes No

4. ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

Will this bill have an administrative impact on NMDOH? Yes No

5. DUPLICATION, CONFLICT, COMPANIONSHIP OR RELATIONSHIP

None

6. TECHNICAL ISSUES

Are there technical issues with the bill? Yes No

7. LEGAL/REGULATORY ISSUES (OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES)

- Will administrative rules need to be updated or new rules written? Yes No
- Have there been changes in federal/state/local laws and regulations that make this legislation necessary (or unnecessary)? Yes No
- Does this bill conflict with federal grant requirements or associated regulations?
 Yes No
- Are there any legal problems or conflicts with existing laws, regulations, policies, or programs? Yes No

8. DISPARITIES ISSUES

None

9. HEALTH IMPACT(S)

None

10. ALTERNATIVES

None

11. WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL?

If HB79 is not enacted, mutual recognition of other member state audiology and speech-language pathology licenses will not be enacted.

12. AMENDMENTS

None