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AN ACT

RELATING TO HEALTH; AMENDING SECTIONS OF THE SPEECH-LANGUAGE  
PATHOLOGY, AUDIOLOGY AND HEARING AID DISPENSING PRACTICES ACT  
TO PROVIDE FOR INFORMATION ABOUT HEARING AID OPTIONS THAT CAN  
PROVIDE A DIRECT CONNECTION BETWEEN THE HEARING AID AND  
ASSISTIVE LISTENING SYSTEMS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

SECTION 1. Section 61-14B-5 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1996,  
Chapter 57, Section 5, as amended) is amended to read:

"61-14B-5. SCOPE OF PRACTICE--AUDIOLOGISTS.--The scope  
of practice for audiologists shall include:

A. the rendering or offering to render  
professional services, including nonmedical diagnosis,  
prevention, identification, evaluation, consultation,  
counseling, habilitation, rehabilitation and instruction on  
and prognostication of individuals having or suspected of  
having disorders of hearing, balance or central auditory  
processing and including, at the time of the initial  
examination for possible sale and fitting of a hearing aid if  
a hearing loss is determined, informing each prospective  
purchaser about hearing aid options that can provide a direct  
connection between the hearing aid and assistive listening  
systems that are compliant with the latest standards for  
accessible design adopted by the United States department of

1 justice in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities  
2 Act of 1990, as amended;

3 B. identification and evaluation of auditory  
4 function through the performance and interpretation of  
5 appropriate behavioral or electrophysiological tests for this  
6 purpose;

7 C. making ear impressions for use with auditory  
8 trainers or for non-amplified devices such as swim molds or  
9 ear protectors;

10 D. cerumen management;

11 E. evaluation and management of tinnitus;

12 F. the scope of practice for hearing aid  
13 dispensers;

14 G. consultation regarding noise control or  
15 environmental noise evaluation;

16 H. hearing conservation;

17 I. calibration of equipment used in hearing  
18 testing and environmental evaluation;

19 J. fitting and management of auditory trainers,  
20 including their general service, adjustment and analysis of  
21 function, as well as instruction, orientation and counseling  
22 in the use and care of these instruments;

23 K. speech or language screening for the purposes  
24 of audiological evaluation or initial identification for  
25 referral of individuals with disorders of communication other

1 than hearing;

2 L. supervision of students, clinical fellows and  
3 paraprofessionals; and

4 M. sponsorship of hearing aid dispenser trainees."

5 SECTION 2. Section 61-14B-6 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1996,  
6 Chapter 57, Section 6) is amended to read:

7 "61-14B-6. SCOPE OF PRACTICE--HEARING AID DISPENSER.--

8 The scope of practice of the hearing aid dispenser shall  
9 include:

10 A. the measurement and evaluation of the  
11 sensitivity of human hearing by means of appropriate  
12 behavioral testing equipment for the purpose of  
13 amplification;

14 B. the otoscopic observation of the outer ear in  
15 connection with the evaluation of hearing and the fitting of  
16 hearing aids and for the purpose of referral to other  
17 professionals;

18 C. the fabrication of ear impressions or ear molds  
19 for the purpose of selecting and fitting hearing aids;

20 D. the analysis of hearing aid function by means  
21 of the appropriate testing equipment;

22 E. the selection and fitting of hearing aids with  
23 appropriate instruction, orientation, counseling and  
24 management regarding the use and maintenance of these devices  
25 and, at the time of the initial examination for possible sale

1 and fitting of a hearing aid if a hearing loss is determined,  
2 informing each prospective purchaser about hearing aid  
3 options that can provide a direct connection between the  
4 hearing aid and assistive listening systems that are  
5 compliant with the latest standards for accessible design  
6 adopted by the United States department of justice in  
7 accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990,  
8 as amended; and

9 F. the modification and general servicing of  
10 hearing aids."

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