AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 37:2441 and 2464(C), relative to the Louisiana Board for Hearing Aid Dealers; to provide for registration and licensure; to provide legislative intent; to provide for applicability; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 37:2441 and 2464(C) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§2441. Registration and licensing required

In order to protect the public welfare, aid the Department of Revenue in collecting sales taxes on labor and on retail prices of hearing aids, and material used in the service and maintenance of hearing aids; to protect privately owned property and to provide an adequate supply of licensed dealers throughout the state by the establishment of the apprenticeship training program by the board; any person rendering or offering to render services for the sale, maintenance, and repair of any type of hearing aid as defined in R.S. 37:2442 shall hereafter be required to be registered and licensed as hereinafter provided, and it shall be unlawful for any person to engage in or offer to engage in the state hearing aid sales and repair service as defined in R.S. 37:2442 unless duly registered and licensed in accordance with this Chapter or as an audiologist under the provisions of Chapter 34 of Title 37 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950; that there is hereby created a board to be known as the Louisiana Board for Hearing Aid Dealers:

A. Any person engaging in the practice of selling and fitting of any type of hearing aid, as defined in R.S. 37:2442, shall be registered and licensed by the Louisiana Board for Hearing Aid Dealers.

B. The provisions of this Section are enacted to:
(1) Protect the public.

(2) Aid the Department of Revenue in collecting sales taxes on labor, on retail prices of hearing aids, and on material used in the repair, service, and maintenance of hearing aids.

(3) Provide an adequate supply of licensed hearing aid dealers throughout the state to serve as sponsors for applicants seeking temporary training permits pursuant to R.S. 37:2449.

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§2464. Application of Chapter

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C. This Chapter shall not apply to a person holding a certificate of clinical competence in audiology awarded by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association and licensed as an audiologist by the Louisiana Board of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _______________