

2022 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 14

BY SENATOR POPE

HEARING AID DEALERS. Provides relative to the Louisiana Board for Hearing Aid Dealers. (8/1/22)

1 AN ACT

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

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

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

8 §2441. Registration and licensing required

9 ~~In order to protect the public welfare, aid the Department of Revenue in~~  
10 ~~collecting sales taxes on labor and on retail prices of hearing aids, and material used~~  
11 ~~in the service and maintenance of hearing aids; to protect privately owned property~~  
12 ~~and to provide an adequate supply of licensed dealers throughout the state by the~~  
13 ~~establishment of the apprenticeship training program by the board; any person~~  
14 ~~rendering or offering to render services for the sale, maintenance, and repair of any~~  
15 ~~type of hearing aid as defined in R.S. 37:2442 shall hereafter be required to be~~  
16 ~~registered and licensed as hereinafter provided, and it shall be unlawful for any~~  
17 ~~person to engage in or offer to engage in the state hearing aid sales and repair service~~

1 as defined in R.S. 37:2442 unless duly registered and licensed in accordance with  
 2 this Chapter or as an audiologist under the provisions of Chapter 34 of Title 37 of the  
 3 Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950; that there is hereby created a board to be known  
 4 as the Louisiana Board for Hearing Aid Dealers.

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

8 **B. The provisions of this Section are enacted to:**

9 **(1) Protect the public.**

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

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

16 \* \* \*

17 §2464. Application of Chapter

18 \* \* \*

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

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The original instrument was prepared by Christine Arbo Peck. The following digest, which does not constitute a part of the legislative instrument, was prepared by Thomas L. Tyler.

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DIGEST

SB 14 Reengrossed

2022 Regular Session

Pope

Present law requires hearing aid dealers to be registered and licensed with the Louisiana Board for Hearing Aid Dealers if they render or offer to render services for the sale, maintenance, and repair of any type of hearing aid. Present law provides legislative intent.

Proposed law retains present law registration and licensure requirements for any person engaging in the practice of selling and fitting any type of hearing aid and provides legislative

intent. Proposed law deletes present law provisions that are provided for in other present law statutes relative to hearing aid dealers.

Present law provides that provisions of the law dealing with the La. Board for Hearing Aid Dealers does not apply to persons holding a certificate of clinical competence in audiology awarded by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association and licensed as an audiologist by the La. Board of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology.

Proposed law provides that provisions dealing with the La. Board for Hearing Aid Dealers does not apply to persons licensed as an audiologist by the La. Board of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology. Provides that persons holding a certificate of clinical competence in audiology awarded by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association are subject to the La. Board for Hearing Aid Dealers.

Effective August 1, 2022.

(Amends R.S. 37:2441 and 2464(C))

#### Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

##### Senate Floor Amendments to engrossed bill

1. Removes from the exclusion of provisions of law regarding the La. Board of Hearing Aid Dealers those persons holding a certificate of clinical competence in audiology awarded by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association.