

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 1228

BY REPRESENTATIVE CREWS

HEARING AID DEALERS: Provides relative to the Louisiana Board of Hearing Aid Dealers.

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 37:2441(B), 2442(2), 2444, 2444.1, 2444.2(A) and (B)(2),
3 2445(3), 2447, and 2450(A), relative to the registration and licensing of hearing aid
4 dealers; to provide for definitions; to provide for requirements for bill of sale
5 contracts; to provide for testing periods for hearing aids; to provide for a limited
6 cooling off period; to provide for application fees; to provide for the scope of
7 examination; to provide for place of business mail notices; and to provide for related
8 matters.

9 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

10 Section 1. R.S. 37:2441(B), 2442(2), 2444, 2444.1, 2444.2(A) and (B)(2), 2445(3),
11 2447, and 2450(A) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

12 §2441. Registration and licensing required

13 * * *

14 B. The provisions of this Section are enacted to:

15 (1) Protect the public.

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

1 to the seller in the same condition, ordinary wear and tear excluded, as when
2 purchased. The written receipt or contract shall notify the consumer of the thirty-day
3 right to cancel period in at least ten point type. The thirty-day right to cancel period
4 shall commence from either the date the hearing aid is originally delivered to the
5 consumer or the date the written receipt or contract is delivered to the consumer,
6 whichever is later. The thirty-day period shall be interrupted for any period during
7 which the hearing aid seller, dealer, or fitter has possession or control of the hearing
8 aid after its original delivery.

9 (2) The consumer may exercise the right to return the purchase by presenting
10 the hearing aid directly to the office in which it was sold or by returning the hearing
11 aid to the location listed on the written receipt or written contract via trackable
12 shipping methods within the time allotted with his intent to return. The seller shall
13 accept the return and issue a return receipt. Upon cancellation the consumer shall
14 make available to the seller in substantially as good condition as when received, any
15 goods delivered under the contract or sale. Any property traded in for credit, any
16 payments made by the consumer under the contract or sale, and any negotiable
17 instrument executed shall be returned by the seller to the consumer within ten
18 business days following receipt by the seller of the cancellation notice and hearing
19 aid. The cancellation notice shall be delivered in writing, electronic mail is an
20 acceptable means of notification, as verification of intent to return within thirty days.
21 The consumer is still responsible for the cancellation fee.

22 B. Upon exercise of the thirty-day right to cancel a hearing aid purchase, the
23 seller of the hearing aid is entitled to a cancellation fee not to exceed fifteen percent
24 of all fees charged to the consumer, including testing, fitting, counseling, and the
25 purchase price of the hearing aid pretax amount. The exact amount of the
26 cancellation fee shall be stated in the written receipt or contract provided to the
27 consumer.

28 §2444.2. Three-day cooling off period

Proposed law provides that consumers may exercise the right to return their purchase or cancel their order, which is subject to a cancellation fee.

Present law provides that consumers have within three business days of the date of ordering a hearing aid to cancel the transaction without any penalties or obligations.

Proposed law requires consumers to notify the seller of the intent to cancel in person where the transaction occurred, by mail, or by electronic mail.

Present law provides that the cancellation notice shall include a signed and dated copy of the subject contract, receipt, sales form, or other document evidencing all the terms of the transaction.

Proposed law deletes that requirement.

Present law provides that new applicants for a first-time license have an education equivalent to a four-year course in an accredited high school and two years of college or two years of accredited higher education or has continuously engaged in fitting and selling hearing aids during the two years preceding the effective date of the present law.

Proposed law removes the option of engaging in the fitting and selling of hearing aids two years preceding the effective date of the present law and changes it to "in good standing for a period of no less than two years from the date of application".

Present law provides that the scope of examination shall be determined and proctored by the La. Board for Hearing Aid Dealers.

Proposed law includes the La. Board for Hearing Aid Dealers or its assignees.

Present law provides that a person who holds a certificate of endorsement license or temporary training permit shall notify the board in writing of the address of the place or places where he engages or intends to engage in the fitting or selling of hearing aids.

Proposed law adds a person who holds a license obtained by examination.

(Amends R.S. 37:2441(B), 2442(2), 2444, 2444.1, 2444.2(A) and (B)(2), 2445(3), 2447, and 2450(A))