

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

Action: Do Pass as Amended, Be Printed Engrossed, and Be Placed on the Consent Calendar

Vote: 7 - 0 - 1

Yeas: Cannon, Doherty, Kennemer, Parrish, Weidner, Greenlick, Thompson

Nays: 0

Exc.: Hoyle

Prepared By: Sandy Thiele-Cirka, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 4/29

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Removes statutory exception for speech-language pathologists or audiologists who are employed by federal agency or approved college or university. Removes statutory exception for unlicensed person working within confines of or under jurisdiction of organization for which person is employed. Removes specific hour requirements for licensing by Board of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology (BSPA). Removes specific hour requirements for licensing by BSPA as audiologist. Directs BSPA to establish rules for clinical experience and other licensing requirements; and for issuance of temporary speech-language pathology or audiology licenses or temporary speech-language pathology assistant certificates. Authorizes BSPA to establish fees for temporary licenses or certificates. Modifies license application renewal date from January 30th of even-numbered year to December 31st of odd-numbered year. Extends signatory subpoena authority to BSPA vice chairperson and executive director. Revises and clarifies Teacher Standards and Practices Commission (TSPC)-licensed Speech-Language Pathology Assistants (SLPAs) are required to meet BSPA qualifications and conditions relating to supervision. Clarifies exceptions to BSPA licensure. Declares emergency; takes effect on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- New national standard of clinical doctoral degree for audiologists
- Review of measure and proposed amendment
- Criteria versus qualifications and conditions
- Appropriate oversight and supervision
- Update training programs to allow on-line and doctoral programs

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Resolves original language conflict. Revises and clarifies that Teacher Standards and Practices Commission (TSPC)-licensed Speech-Language Pathology Assistants (SLPAs) are required to meet Board of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology (BSPA) qualifications and conditions relating to supervision. Clarifies all exceptions to BSPA licensure.

BACKGROUND: The Board of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology (BSPA) was established in 1973 to license and regulate the performance of speech-language pathologists and audiologists for consumer protection. The BSPA adopts rules governing standards of practice, investigates alleged violations and grants, denies, suspends and revokes licenses.

In 2007, the federal standards for licensure as an audiologist changed to require a clinical doctorate rather than a master's degree. Senate Bill 141-A brings Oregon's standards in line with the federal changes.