

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Item 89: Board of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Increased Licensee and Caseload Costs

To: Emergency Board Full Committee
From: General Government Subcommittee
Carrier: Senator Wagner

The General Government Subcommittee recommends that the Emergency Board increase Other Funds expenditure limitation by \$107,000 for the Board of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology to pay for increased legal and licensing expenses.

The Board of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology has seen increased licensing costs due to an increase in licensee numbers, with a 24% increase in licensees over the past two biennia. Increased costs for the Board include expenditures for background checks that are conducted as part of the licensing process, and increased bank fees. Additionally, the Board recently switched from a flat rate to an hourly billing system for services provided by their assigned Assistant Attorney General. Costs for legal services have increased due to the Board seeing more cases this biennium.

The Subcommittee recommends approval.