

Senate Bill 124

Printed pursuant to Senate Interim Rule 213.28 by order of the President of the Senate in conformance with pre-session filing rules, indicating neither advocacy nor opposition on the part of the President (at the request of Governor Kate Brown for State Board of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Adds certified speech-language pathology assistant to membership of State Board of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology.

Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to membership of the State Board of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology and
3 Audiology; creating new provisions; amending ORS 681.400; and prescribing an effective date.

4 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

5 **SECTION 1.** ORS 681.400 is amended to read:

6 681.400. (1) There is established a State Board of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology and
7 Audiology. The board consists of *[seven]* **eight** members appointed by the Governor and subject to
8 confirmation by the Senate in the manner provided in ORS 171.562 and 171.565. All members of the
9 board must be residents of this state. Of the members of the board:

10 (a) Two must be audiologists licensed under this chapter.

11 (b) Two must be speech-language pathologists licensed under this chapter.

12 **(c) One must be a speech-language pathology assistant certified under ORS 681.360.**

13 *[(c)]* **(d)** One must be a person licensed to practice medicine who also holds board certification
14 from the American Board of Otolaryngology.

15 *[(d)]* **(e)** Two must be members of the public who are not:

16 (A) Otherwise eligible for appointment to the board; or

17 (B) A spouse, domestic partner, child, parent or sibling of:

18 **(i)** An audiologist[.];

19 **(ii)** A speech-language pathologist;

20 **(iii)** A speech-language pathology assistant; or

21 **(iv)** A person licensed to practice medicine who also holds board certification from the Ameri-
22 can Board of Otolaryngology.

23 (2)(a) Board members required to be licensed audiologists, *[or]* licensed speech-language
24 pathologists **or certified speech-language pathology assistants** may be selected by the Governor
25 from a list of three to five nominees for each vacancy, submitted by:

26 (A) Any professional organization representing audiologists, if the vacancy on the board is for
27 an audiologist position; *[or]*

28 (B) Any professional organization representing speech-language pathologists, if the vacancy on
29 the board is for a speech-language pathologist position[.]; **or**

30 **(C) Any professional organization representing speech-language pathology assistants, if**

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter *[italic and bracketed]* is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 **the vacancy on the board is for a speech-language pathology assistant position.**

2 (b) In selecting the members of the board, the Governor shall strive to balance the represen-
3 tation on the board according to:

4 (A) Geographic areas of this state; and

5 (B) Ethnic group.

6 (3)(a) The term of office of each member is three years, but a member serves at the pleasure of
7 the Governor. The terms must be staggered so that no more than three terms end each year. Before
8 the expiration of the term of a member, the Governor shall appoint a successor whose term begins
9 on July 1 next following. A member is eligible for reappointment. If there is a vacancy for any cause,
10 the Governor shall make an appointment to become immediately effective for the unexpired term.

11 (b) A board member shall be removed immediately from the board if, during the member's term,
12 the member:

13 (A) Is not a resident of this state;

14 (B) Has been absent from three consecutive board meetings, unless at least one absence is ex-
15 cused;

16 (C) Is not a licensed audiologist or a retired audiologist who was a licensed audiologist whose
17 license was in good standing at the time of retirement, if the board member was appointed to serve
18 on the board as an audiologist; [or]

19 (D) Is not a licensed speech-language pathologist or a retired speech-language pathologist who
20 was a licensed speech-language pathologist whose license was in good standing at the time of re-
21 tirement, if the board member was appointed to serve on the board as a speech-language
22 pathologist[.]; or

23 **(E) Is not a certified speech-language pathology assistant or a retired speech-language**
24 **pathology assistant who was a certified speech-language pathology assistant whose certif-**
25 **icate was in good standing at the time of retirement, if the board member was appointed to**
26 **serve on the board as a speech-language pathology assistant.**

27 **SECTION 2. The amendments to ORS 681.400 by section 1 of this 2021 Act apply to indi-**
28 **viduals who are members of the State Board of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology**
29 **and Audiology on and after the operative date specified in section 3 of this 2021 Act.**

30 **SECTION 3. (1) The amendments to ORS 681.400 by section 1 of this 2021 Act become**
31 **operative on January 1, 2022.**

32 **(2) The State Board of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology may**
33 **take any action before the operative date specified in subsection (1) of this section that is**
34 **necessary for the board to exercise, on and after the operative date specified in subsection**
35 **(1) of this section, all of the duties, functions and powers conferred on the board by the**
36 **amendments to ORS 681.400 by section 1 of this 2021 Act.**

37 **SECTION 4. This 2021 Act takes effect on the 91st day after the date on which the 2021**
38 **regular session of the Eighty-first Legislative Assembly adjourns sine die.**

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