House Bill 3545

Sponsored by Representative MORGAN

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.

Requires State Board of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology to adopt rules requiring licensed person to inform prospective purchaser of hearing aids about specified hearing aids.

Requires Health Licensing Office to adopt rules requiring licensed person to inform prospective purchaser of hearing aids about specified hearing aids.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to hearing aids; amending ORS 681.420 and 694.155.

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

SECTION 1. ORS 681.420 is amended to read:

681.420. The State Board of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology shall:

(1) Administer, coordinate and enforce the provisions of this chapter;

(2) Evaluate the qualifications of applicants for any license as issued under this chapter and supervise the examination of such applicants;

(3) Investigate persons engaging in practices which violate the provisions of this chapter;

(4) Conduct hearings and keep records and minutes as the board deems necessary to an orderly dispatch of business;

(5) Adopt rules and regulations[, including but not limited to governing] that include:

(a) Governing ethical standards of practice under this chapter; and

(b) Rules requiring a person who is licensed under this chapter to inform a prospective purchaser of hearing aids about hearing aids that work with assistive listening systems that are compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act Standards for Accessible Design adopted by the United States Department of Justice in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, 42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq; and

(6) Adopt a seal by which the board shall authenticate its proceedings. Copies of the proceedings, records and acts of the board, signed by the executive director or chairperson of the board and stamped with the seal, shall be prima facie evidence of the truth of such documents.

SECTION 2. ORS 694.155 is amended to read:

694.155. The powers and duties of the Health Licensing Office with regard to dealing in hearing aids are as follows:

(1) To authorize all disbursements necessary to carry out the provisions of ORS 694.015 to 694.170.

(2) To determine training and experience requirements prerequisite to taking the examination and to supervise and administer qualifying examinations to test the knowledge and proficiency of applicants for licensure.

(3) To provide for waivers of examinations by rule.
(4) To license persons who apply to the office and who have qualified to deal in hearing aids.

(5) To purchase and maintain or rent audiometric equipment and facilities necessary to carry out the examination of applicants for licensure.

(6) To issue and renew licenses and temporary licenses.

(7) To suspend or revoke licenses in the manner provided in ORS chapter 183.

(8) To appoint representatives to conduct or supervise the examination of applicants for licensure.

(9) To designate the time and place for examining applicants for licensure.

(10) To adopt rules not inconsistent with the laws of this state which are necessary to carry out the provisions of ORS 694.015 to 694.170, including rules that require a person who is licensed under this chapter to inform a prospective purchaser of hearing aids about hearing aids that work with assistive listening systems that are compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act Standards for Accessible Design adopted by the United States Department of Justice in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, 42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.

(11) With the advice of the Advisory Council on Hearing Aids, to prescribe safety and sanitation requirements, to require the periodic inspection of the audiometric testing equipment and to carry out the periodic inspection of facilities of persons who deal in hearing aids.

(12) To appoint or employ subordinate employees.

(13) To adopt rules specifying exemptions relating to assistive listening devices.