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REGISTER AUDIOLOGISTS

House Bill 5355

Sponsor: Rep. Michael Griffin

Committee: Health Policy

Complete to 5-22-98

A SUMMARY OF HOUSE BILL 5355 AS INTRODUCED 11-6-97

The bill would amend Article 15 of the Public Health Code to establish a system of registration for audiologists, restrict the use of certain titles to registered persons, set licensing fees, and create the Michigan Board of Audiology within the Department of Consumer and Industry Services (CIS). A “registered audiologist” would be a person registered with CIS who provided specified audiology services; developed and supervised environmental and occupational hearing conservation programs; provided and interpreted behavioral and physiological measurements of auditory and vestibular and other cranial nerve functions; provided a preliminary assessment of speech, language, and other factors that affect communication function; and provided appropriate referrals for individuals with dysfunctions. A registered audiologist could not dispense hearing aids unless he or she held a valid hearing aid dealers license issued under Article 13 of the Occupational Code (MCL 339.1301 et al.).

The Michigan Board of Audiology would consist of two public members and three audiologists who would serve for four-year terms. The Board would have to promulgate rules establishing registration requirements. The requirements would have to include, at a minimum, the possession of at least a Master’s Degree in audiology from a board-approved college or university, supervised clinical experience in audiology, and a passing score on the national examination in audiology or a board-approved alternate examination. There would be a \$20 application processing fee and an annual license fee of \$50.

MCL 333.16131 et al.

Analyst: S. Stutzky

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