

October 14, 2019

Dear New Mexico Speech & Hearing Board members,

RE: Revision to telecoil notification clause rule

I'm writing to urge you to **require initials from both hearing care providers and consumers on the telecoil notification notice on hearing aid sales contracts.**

To print the telecoil notification clause on receipts automatically is of no value because it doesn't actually ensure consumers were informed about telecoils. Telecoils help consumers hear through ADA-mandated public assistive listening systems, increasing the number of places people with hearing aids can hear clearly. But without telecoil knowledge and know-how, consumers are not only not empowered to buy the best hearing aid for their needs, they also risk being excluded from tens of thousands of venues around the world simply because they can't hear.

Telecoil notification has become so important that several states across the country now mandate it by law. New Mexico now has an opportunity to make a rule change that will have a similar effect, helping people with hearing loss across the state.

The Committee for Communication Access in New Mexico has requested this change, and we agree very much with their recommendation.

Sincerely,

Cheri Perazzoli, Founder
Loop Washington
Co-Chair, Get in the Hearing Loop Program
Board of Trustees, HLAA and HLAA-Washington

