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HOUSE BILL 70

52ND LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2016

INTRODUCED BY

Carl Trujillo

AN ACT

RELATING TO HEALTH; AMENDING SECTIONS OF THE SPEECH-LANGUAGE
PATHOLOGY, AUDIOLOGY AND HEARING AID DISPENSING PRACTICES ACT
TO PROVIDE FOR INFORMATION ABOUT HEARING AID OPTIONS THAT CAN
PROVIDE A DIRECT CONNECTION BETWEEN THE HEARING AID AND
ASSISTIVE LISTENING SYSTEMS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

SECTION 1. Section 61-14B-5 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1996,
Chapter 57, Section 5, as amended) is amended to read:

"61-14B-5. SCOPE OF PRACTICE--AUDIOLOGISTS.--The scope of
practice for audiologists shall include:

A. the rendering or offering to render professional
services, including nonmedical diagnosis, prevention,
identification, evaluation, consultation, counseling,
habilitation, rehabilitation and instruction on and

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1 prognostication of individuals having or suspected of having
2 disorders of hearing, balance or central auditory processing
3 and including, at the time of the initial examination for
4 possible sale and fitting of a hearing aid if a hearing loss is
5 determined, informing each prospective purchaser about hearing
6 aid options that can provide a direct connection between the
7 hearing aid and assistive listening systems that are compliant
8 with the standards for accessible design adopted by the United
9 States department of justice in accordance with the Americans
10 with Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C.;

11 B. identification and evaluation of auditory
12 function through the performance and interpretation of
13 appropriate behavioral or electrophysiological tests for this
14 purpose;

15 C. making ear impressions for use with auditory
16 trainers or for non-amplified devices such as swim molds or ear
17 protectors;

18 D. cerumen management;

19 E. evaluation and management of tinnitus;

20 F. the scope of practice for hearing aid
21 dispensers;

22 G. consultation regarding noise control or
23 environmental noise evaluation;

24 H. hearing conservation;

25 I. calibration of equipment used in hearing testing

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1 and environmental evaluation;

2 J. fitting and management of auditory trainers,
3 including their general service, adjustment and analysis of
4 function, as well as instruction, orientation and counseling in
5 the use and care of these instruments;

6 K. speech or language screening for the purposes of
7 audiological evaluation or initial identification for referral
8 of individuals with disorders of communication other than
9 hearing;

10 L. supervision of students, clinical fellows and
11 paraprofessionals; and

12 M. sponsorship of hearing aid dispenser trainees."

13 SECTION 2. Section 61-14B-6 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1996,
14 Chapter 57, Section 6) is amended to read:

15 "61-14B-6. SCOPE OF PRACTICE--HEARING AID DISPENSER.--The
16 scope of practice of the hearing aid dispenser shall include:

17 A. the measurement and evaluation of the
18 sensitivity of human hearing by means of appropriate behavioral
19 testing equipment for the purpose of amplification;

20 B. the otoscopic observation of the outer ear in
21 connection with the evaluation of hearing and the fitting of
22 hearing aids and for the purpose of referral to other
23 professionals;

24 C. the fabrication of ear impressions or ear molds
25 for the purpose of selecting and fitting hearing aids;

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1 D. the analysis of hearing aid function by means of
2 the appropriate testing equipment;

3 E. the selection and fitting of hearing aids with
4 appropriate instruction, orientation, counseling and management
5 regarding the use and maintenance of these devices and, at the
6 time of the initial examination for possible sale and fitting
7 of a hearing aid if a hearing loss is determined, informing
8 each prospective purchaser about hearing aid options that can
9 provide a direct connection between the hearing aid and
10 assistive listening systems that are compliant with the
11 standards for accessible design adopted by the United States
12 department of justice in accordance with the Americans with
13 Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C.; and

14 F. the modification and general servicing of
15 hearing aids."