

By Senator Peaden

2-436A-05

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to health professionals  
3           treating speech or hearing disorders; amending  
4           s. 456.062, F.S.; deleting a requirement that  
5           hearing aid specialists make certain  
6           disclosures regarding services that are  
7           provided free of charge or at a reduced fee;  
8           amending s. 468.1155, F.S.; revising  
9           requirements for the Department of Health in  
10          issuing a provisional license to practice  
11          speech-language pathology or audiology;  
12          revising licensing requirements for applicants  
13          who graduated or who are currently enrolled in  
14          a speech-language pathology or audiology  
15          program at a university outside the United  
16          States or Canada; providing a time period for  
17          renewing a provisional license; amending s.  
18          468.1165, F.S.; deleting a specific time period  
19          for the professional-employment requirement for  
20          licensure as a speech-language pathologist or  
21          audiologist; amending s. 468.1185, F.S.;  
22          revising the requirements for qualification for  
23          a license by endorsement as a speech-language  
24          pathologist or audiologist; amending s.  
25          468.1215, F.S.; revising the requirements for  
26          certification as a speech-language pathology  
27          assistant or an audiology assistant; providing  
28          an effective date.

30 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:  
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1           Section 1. Section 456.062, Florida Statutes, is  
2 amended to read:

3           456.062 Advertisement by a health care practitioner of  
4 free or discounted services; required statement.--In any  
5 advertisement for a free, discounted fee, or reduced fee  
6 service, examination, or treatment by a health care  
7 practitioner licensed under chapter 458, chapter 459, chapter  
8 460, chapter 461, chapter 462, chapter 463, chapter 464,  
9 chapter 465, chapter 466, chapter 467, chapter 478, chapter  
10 483, part I of chapter 484, chapter 486, chapter 490, or  
11 chapter 491, the following statement shall appear in capital  
12 letters clearly distinguishable from the rest of the text:

13 THE PATIENT AND ANY OTHER PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR PAYMENT HAS A  
14 RIGHT TO REFUSE TO PAY, CANCEL PAYMENT, OR BE REIMBURSED FOR  
15 PAYMENT FOR ANY OTHER SERVICE, EXAMINATION, OR TREATMENT THAT  
16 IS PERFORMED AS A RESULT OF AND WITHIN 72 HOURS OF RESPONDING  
17 TO THE ADVERTISEMENT FOR THE FREE, DISCOUNTED FEE, OR REDUCED  
18 FEE SERVICE, EXAMINATION, OR TREATMENT. However, the required  
19 statement shall not be necessary as an accompaniment to an  
20 advertisement of a licensed health care practitioner defined  
21 by this section if the advertisement appears in a classified  
22 directory the primary purpose of which is to provide products  
23 and services at free, reduced, or discounted prices to  
24 consumers and in which the statement prominently appears in at  
25 least one place.

26           Section 2. Section 468.1155, Florida Statutes, is  
27 amended to read:

28           468.1155 Provisional license; requirements.--

29           (1)(a) A provisional license is ~~shall be~~ required of  
30 all applicants who cannot document the required ~~9 months of~~

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1 supervised professional employment experience as required by  
2 the board and a passing score on the national examination.

3 (b) Individuals who are required to hold a provisional  
4 license under paragraph (a) shall apply to the department and  
5 be certified by the board for licensure prior to initiating  
6 the professional employment experience required pursuant to s.  
7 468.1165.

8 (2) The department shall issue a provisional license  
9 to practice speech-language pathology to each applicant who  
10 the board certifies has:

11 (a) Completed the application form and remitted the  
12 required fees, including a nonrefundable application fee.

13 (b) Received a master's degree or has completed the  
14 academic requirement of ~~is currently enrolled in~~ a doctoral  
15 degree program with a major emphasis in speech-language  
16 pathology from an institution of higher learning ~~that which~~  
17 is, or at the time the applicant was enrolled and graduated  
18 was, accredited by an accrediting agency recognized by the  
19 United States Department of Education or its successor  
20 organization ~~Council for Higher Education Accreditation~~ or  
21 from an institution ~~that which~~ is a member in good standing  
22 with the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada.  
23 An applicant who graduated from or is currently enrolled in a  
24 program at a university or college outside the United States  
25 or Canada must present documentation of the determination of  
26 equivalency to standards established by the United States  
27 Department of Education or its successor organization ~~Council~~  
28 ~~for Higher Education Accreditation~~ in order to qualify. The  
29 applicant must have completed the academic and clinical  
30 requirements as established by rule of the board. The board  
31 may waive the requirements for education, practicum, and

1 professional employment experience for an applicant who  
2 received a professional education in another country if the  
3 board is satisfied that the applicant meets the equivalent  
4 education and practicum requirements, passes the examination  
5 in speech-language pathology, and meets other requirements  
6 established by rule of the board. 60 semester hours that  
7 include:

8       1. ~~Fundamental information applicable to the normal~~  
9 ~~development and use of speech, hearing, and language;~~  
10 ~~information about training in management of speech, hearing,~~  
11 ~~and language disorders; and information supplementary to these~~  
12 ~~fields.~~

13       2. ~~Six semester hours in audiology.~~

14       3. ~~Thirty of the required 60 semester hours in courses~~  
15 ~~acceptable toward a graduate degree by the college or~~  
16 ~~university in which these courses were taken, of which 24~~  
17 ~~semester hours must be in speech language pathology.~~

18       (c) ~~Completed 300 supervised clinical clock hours with~~  
19 ~~200 clock hours in the area of speech language pathology or~~  
20 ~~completed the number of clock hours required by an accredited~~  
21 ~~institution meeting national certification standards. The~~  
22 ~~supervised clinical clock hours shall be completed within the~~  
23 ~~training institution or one of its cooperating programs.~~

24       (3) The department shall issue a provisional license  
25 to practice audiology to each applicant who the board  
26 certifies has:

27       (a) Completed the application form and remitted the  
28 required fees, including a nonrefundable application fee.

29       (b) Effective January 1, 2007, earned a doctoral  
30 degree in audiology ~~Received a master's degree or has~~  
31 completed the academic requirement of ~~is currently enrolled in~~

1 a doctoral degree program with a major emphasis in audiology  
2 from an institution of higher learning ~~that which~~ is, or at  
3 the time the applicant was enrolled and graduated was,  
4 accredited by an accrediting agency recognized by the United  
5 States Department of Education or its successor organization  
6 ~~Council for Higher Education Accreditation~~ or from an  
7 institution ~~that which~~ is a member in good standing with the  
8 Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada. An  
9 applicant who graduated from or is currently enrolled in a  
10 program at a university or college outside the United States  
11 or Canada must present documentation of the determination of  
12 equivalency to standards established by the United States  
13 Department of Education or its successor organization ~~Council~~  
14 ~~for Higher Education Accreditation~~ in order to qualify. The  
15 applicant must have completed the academic and clinical  
16 requirements established by rule of the board. The board may  
17 waive the education, practicum, and professional employment  
18 experience requirements for an applicant who received a  
19 professional education in another country if the board is  
20 satisfied that the applicant meets equivalent education and  
21 practicum requirements, passes the examination in audiology,  
22 and meets other requirements established by rule of the board.

23 (c) Has earned a master's degree with a major emphasis  
24 in audiology which was conferred before January 1, 2007, from  
25 an institution of higher learning which was, or at the time  
26 the applicant was enrolled and graduated, accredited by an  
27 accrediting agency recognized by the United States Department  
28 of Education or its successor organization or from an  
29 institution that is a member in good standing with the  
30 Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada.

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1 An applicant who graduated from or is currently enrolled in a  
2 program at a university or college outside the United States  
3 or Canada must present documentation of the determination of  
4 equivalency to standards established by the United States  
5 Department of Education or its successor organization or from  
6 an institution that is a member in good standing with the  
7 Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada in order to  
8 qualify. The applicant must have completed the academic and  
9 clinical requirements established by rule of the board. The  
10 board may waive the education, practicum, and professional  
11 employment experience requirements for an applicant who  
12 received a professional education in another country if the  
13 board is satisfied that the applicant meets equivalent  
14 education and practicum requirements, passes the examination  
15 in audiology, and meets other requirements established by rule  
16 of the board. ~~60 semester hours that include:~~

17 1. ~~Fundamental information applicable to the normal~~  
18 ~~development and use of speech, hearing, and language;~~  
19 ~~information about training in management of speech, hearing,~~  
20 ~~and language disorders; and information supplementary to these~~  
21 ~~fields.~~

22 2. ~~Six semester hours in speech language pathology.~~

23 3. ~~Thirty of the required 60 semester hours in courses~~  
24 ~~acceptable toward a graduate degree by the college or~~  
25 ~~university in which these courses were taken, of which 24~~  
26 ~~semester hours must be in audiology.~~

27 (c) ~~Completed 300 supervised clinical clock hours with~~  
28 ~~200 clock hours in the area of audiology or completed the~~  
29 ~~number of clock hours required by an accredited institution~~  
30 ~~meeting national certification standards. The supervised~~  
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1 ~~clinical clock hours shall be completed within the training~~  
2 ~~institution or one of its cooperating programs.~~

3 ~~(4) An applicant who has received a master's degree or~~  
4 ~~is currently enrolled in a doctoral degree program with a~~  
5 ~~major emphasis in speech language pathology as provided in~~  
6 ~~subsection (2), or audiology as provided in subsection (3),~~  
7 ~~and who seeks licensure in the area in which the applicant is~~  
8 ~~not currently licensed, must have completed 30 semester hours~~  
9 ~~in courses acceptable toward a graduate degree and 200~~  
10 ~~supervised clinical clock hours in the second discipline from~~  
11 ~~an accredited institution.~~

12 ~~(4)(5)~~ The board, by rule, shall establish  
13 requirements for the renewal of a provisional license.  
14 ~~However,~~ A provisional license may not exceed the time allowed  
15 by rule of the board ~~a period of 24 months.~~

16 (5) An applicant for provisional licensure must  
17 demonstrate good moral character.

18 Section 3. Section 468.1165, Florida Statutes, is  
19 amended to read:

20 468.1165 Professional employment experience  
21 requirement.--Every applicant for licensure as a  
22 speech-language ~~speech~~ pathologist or audiologist shall  
23 demonstrate, prior to licensure, ~~9 months of full-time or~~  
24 equivalent part-time professional employment, as determined by  
25 the board ~~or the equivalent in part time professional~~  
26 ~~employment~~, pertinent to the license being sought. The board,  
27 by rule, shall establish standards for obtaining and verifying  
28 the required professional employment experience.

29 Section 4. Section 468.1185, Florida Statutes, is  
30 amended to read:

31 468.1185 Licensure.--

1           (1) The department shall license any applicant whom  
2 the board certifies is qualified to practice speech-language  
3 pathology or audiology and who has paid the initial licensure  
4 fee.

5           (2) The board shall certify for licensure any  
6 applicant who has:

7           (a) Satisfied the education and supervised clinical  
8 ~~clock-hour~~ requirements of s. 468.1155.

9           (b) Satisfied the professional experience requirement  
10 of s. 468.1165.

11           (c) Passed the licensure examination required by s.  
12 468.1175.

13           (3) The board shall certify as qualified for a license  
14 by endorsement as a speech-language pathologist or audiologist  
15 an applicant who:

16           (a) Holds a valid license or certificate in another  
17 state or territory of the United States to practice the  
18 profession for which the application for licensure is made, if  
19 the criteria for issuance of such license were substantially  
20 equivalent to or more stringent than the licensure criteria  
21 which existed in this state at the time the license was  
22 issued; or

23           (b) Holds a valid certificate that meets or exceeds  
24 the licensure requirements in this state as determined by rule  
25 of the board ~~Has received the certificate of clinical~~  
26 ~~competence of the American Speech Language and Hearing~~  
27 ~~Association.~~

28           (4) The board may refuse to certify any applicant who  
29 is under investigation in any jurisdiction for an act which  
30 would constitute a violation of this part or chapter 456 until  
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1 the investigation is complete and disciplinary proceedings  
2 have been terminated.

3 (5) An applicant for licensure or provisional  
4 licensure must demonstrate good moral character ~~The board may~~  
5 ~~refuse to certify any applicant who has violated any of the~~  
6 ~~provisions of s. 468.1245.~~

7 Section 5. Section 468.1215, Florida Statutes, is  
8 amended to read:

9 468.1215 Speech-language pathology assistant and  
10 audiology assistant; certification.--

11 (1) The department shall issue a certificate as a  
12 speech-language pathology assistant to each applicant who the  
13 board certifies has:

14 (a) Completed the application form and remitted the  
15 required fees, including a nonrefundable application fee.

16 (b) Completed the minimum requirements for education  
17 and on-the-job training adopted by rule of the board ~~Earned a~~  
18 ~~bachelor's degree from a college or university accredited by a~~  
19 ~~regional association of colleges and schools recognized by the~~  
20 ~~Department of Education which includes at least 24 semester~~  
21 ~~hours of coursework as approved by the board at an institution~~  
22 ~~accredited by an accrediting agency recognized by the Council~~  
23 ~~for Higher Education Accreditation.~~

24 (2) The department shall issue a certificate as an  
25 audiology assistant to each applicant who the board certifies  
26 has:

27 (a) Completed the application form and remitted the  
28 required fees, including a nonrefundable application fee.

29 (b) Completed the minimum requirements for education  
30 and on-the-job training adopted by rule of the board ~~Completed~~  
31 ~~at least 24 semester hours of coursework as approved by the~~

1 ~~board at an institution accredited by an accrediting agency~~  
2 ~~recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation.~~

3 (3) The board, by rule, shall establish minimum  
4 education and on-the-job training and supervision requirements  
5 for certification as a speech-language pathology assistant or  
6 audiology assistant.

7 (4) The provisions of this section shall not apply to  
8 any student, intern, or trainee performing speech-language  
9 pathology or audiology services while completing the  
10 supervised clinical experience ~~clock hours~~ as required in s.  
11 468.1155.

12 Section 6. This act shall take effect July 1, 2005.

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15 SENATE SUMMARY

16 Provides requirements for issuing a provisional license  
17 to practice speech-language pathology or audiology.  
18 Revises licensing requirements for applicants who  
19 graduated or who are currently enrolled in a  
20 speech-language pathology or audiology program at a  
21 university outside the United States or Canada. Provides  
22 a time period for the renewal of a provisional license.  
23 Deletes a specific time period for the professional  
24 employment requirement for licensure. Revises  
25 requirements for qualification for a license by  
26 endorsement as a speech-language pathologist or  
27 audiologist. Revises requirements for certification as a  
28 speech-language pathology assistant and an audiology  
29 assistant.  
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