

CHAMBER ACTION

1 The Health Care Regulation Committee recommends the following:

2
3 **Council/Committee Substitute**

4 Remove the entire bill and insert:

5 A bill to be entitled

6 An act relating to health professionals treating speech or
7 hearing disorders; amending s. 468.1155, F.S.; revising
8 requirements for the Department of Health in issuing a
9 provisional license to practice speech-language pathology
10 or audiology; revising licensing requirements for
11 applicants who graduated or who are currently enrolled in
12 a speech-language pathology or audiology program at a
13 university outside the United States or Canada;
14 authorizing the Board of Speech-Language Pathology and
15 Audiology to waive certain requirements for applicants who
16 received professional education in another country under
17 certain circumstances; amending s. 468.1165, F.S.;
18 revising requirements for applicants to obtain
19 professional employment in order to be licensed by the
20 department to practice speech-language pathology or
21 audiology; amending s. 468.1185, F.S.; revising the
22 requirements for qualification for the department to issue
23 a license to an applicant to practice as a speech-language

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24 | pathologist or audiologist; amending s. 468.1215, F.S. ;
 25 | revising the requirements for certification as a speech-
 26 | language pathology assistant or an audiology assistant;
 27 | requiring an audiologist or speech-language pathologist to
 28 | give an assistant a board-approved plan for training and
 29 | to maintain responsibility for services performed by the
 30 | assistant; providing an effective date.

31

32 | Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

33

34 | Section 1. Section 468.1155, Florida Statutes, is amended
 35 | to read:

36 | 468.1155 Provisional license; requirements.--

37 | (1)(a) A provisional license shall be required of all
 38 | applicants for a license in speech-language pathology who cannot
 39 | document a minimum of 9 months of supervised professional
 40 | employment experience and a passing score on the national
 41 | examination. A provisional license shall be required of all
 42 | applicants for a license in audiology who cannot document a
 43 | minimum of 11 months of supervised clinical experience and a
 44 | passing score on the national examination.

45 | (b) Individuals who are required to hold a provisional
 46 | license under paragraph (a) shall apply to the department and be
 47 | certified by the board for licensure prior to initiating the
 48 | professional employment experience required pursuant to s.
 49 | 468.1165.

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

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

55 (b) Received a master's degree or has completed the
56 academic requirement of ~~is currently enrolled in~~ a doctoral
57 degree program with a major emphasis in speech-language
58 pathology from an institution of higher learning that ~~which~~ is,
59 or at the time the applicant was enrolled and graduated was,
60 accredited by an accrediting agency recognized by the Council
61 for Higher Education Accreditation or its successor or the
62 United States Department of Education or from an institution
63 that ~~which~~ is a member in good standing with the Association of
64 Universities and Colleges of Canada. An applicant who graduated
65 from or is currently enrolled in a program at a university or
66 college outside the United States or Canada must present
67 documentation of the determination of equivalency of the program
68 to standards established by an accrediting body recognized by
69 the Council for Higher Education Accreditation or its successor
70 or the United States Department of Education in order to
71 qualify.

72 1. The applicant must have completed the program
73 requirements by academic course work, practicum experience, or
74 laboratory or research activity, as verified by the program,
75 including:

76 a. Knowledge of basic human communication and swallowing
 77 processes, including their biological, neurological, acoustic,
 78 psychological, developmental, and linguistic and cultural bases.

79 b. Knowledge of the nature of speech, language, hearing,
 80 and communication disorders and differences and swallowing
 81 disorders, including their etiologies, characteristics,
 82 anatomical or physiological, acoustic, psychological,
 83 developmental, and linguistic and cultural correlates, voice and
 84 resonance, including respiration and phonation, receptive and
 85 expressive language in speaking, listening, reading, writing,
 86 and manual modalities, hearing, including the impact on speech
 87 and language, swallowing, cognitive aspects of communication,
 88 social aspects of communication, and communication modalities.

89 c. Knowledge of the principles and methods of prevention,
 90 assessment, and intervention for people having communication and
 91 swallowing disorders, including consideration of anatomical or
 92 physiological, psychological, developmental, and linguistic and
 93 cultural correlates of the disorders, articulation, fluency,
 94 voice and resonance, receptive and expressive communication,
 95 hearing, swallowing, cognitive aspects of communication, social
 96 aspects of communication, and communication modalities.

97 2. The program must include appropriate supervised
 98 clinical experiences.

100 The board may waive the requirements for education, practicum,
 101 and professional employment experience for an applicant who
 102 received a professional education in another country if the
 103 board is satisfied that the applicant meets the equivalent

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104 education and practicum requirements and passes the examination
105 in speech-language pathology. 60 semester hours that include:
106 1. ~~Fundamental information applicable to the normal~~
107 ~~development and use of speech, hearing, and language;~~
108 ~~information about training in management of speech, hearing, and~~
109 ~~language disorders; and information supplementary to these~~
110 ~~fields.~~
111 2. ~~Six semester hours in audiology.~~
112 3. ~~Thirty of the required 60 semester hours in courses~~
113 ~~acceptable toward a graduate degree by the college or university~~
114 ~~in which these courses were taken, of which 24 semester hours~~
115 ~~must be in speech-language pathology.~~
116 ~~(c) Completed 300 supervised clinical clock hours with 200~~
117 ~~clock hours in the area of speech-language pathology or~~
118 ~~completed the number of clock hours required by an accredited~~
119 ~~institution meeting national certification standards. The~~
120 ~~supervised clinical clock hours shall be completed within the~~
121 ~~training institution or one of its cooperating programs.~~
122 (3) The department shall issue a provisional license to
123 practice audiology to each applicant who the board certifies
124 has:
125 (a) Completed the application form and remitted the
126 required fees, including a nonrefundable application fee.
127 (b) Effective January 1, 2007, earned a doctoral degree in
128 audiology, but has not passed the license examination required
129 for a license in audiology or has completed the academic
130 requirements of ~~Received a master's degree or is currently~~
131 ~~enrolled in a doctoral degree program with a major emphasis in~~

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132 | audiology from an institution of higher learning ~~that which~~ is,
 133 | or at the time the applicant was enrolled and graduated was,
 134 | accredited by an accrediting agency recognized by the Council
 135 | for Higher Education Accreditation or its successor or the
 136 | United States Department of Education or from an institution
 137 | ~~that which~~ is a member in good standing with the Association of
 138 | Universities and Colleges of Canada. An applicant who graduated
 139 | from or is currently enrolled in a program at a university or
 140 | college outside the United States or Canada must present
 141 | documentation of the determination of equivalency of the program
 142 | to standards established by an accrediting body recognized by
 143 | the Council for Higher Education Accreditation or its successor
 144 | or the United States Department of Education in order to
 145 | qualify.

146 | 1. The program must assure that the student obtained
 147 | knowledge of foundation areas of basic body systems and
 148 | processes related to hearing and balance.

149 | 2. The program must assure that the student obtained
 150 | skills for the diagnosis, management, and treatment of auditory
 151 | and vestibular or balance conditions and diseases.

152 | 3. The program must assure that the student can
 153 | effectively communicate with patients and other health care
 154 | professionals.

155 | 4. The program must assure that the student obtained
 156 | knowledge of professional ethical systems as they relate to the
 157 | practice of audiology.

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158 5. The program must assure that the student obtained
159 clinical experiences that encompass the entire scope of practice
160 and focus on the most current evidence-based practice.

161
162 The board may waive the education, practicum, and professional
163 employment experience requirements for an applicant who received
164 a professional education in another country if the board is
165 satisfied that the applicant meets equivalent education and
166 practicum requirements and passes the examination in audiology.

167 (c) Earned a master's degree with a major emphasis in
168 audiology which was conferred before January 1, 2007, from an
169 institution of higher learning which was, or at the time the
170 applicant was enrolled and graduated, accredited by an
171 accrediting agency recognized by the Council for Higher
172 Education Accreditation or its successor, the United States
173 Department of Education, or from an institution that is a member
174 in good standing with the Association of Universities and
175 Colleges of Canada.

176 1. An applicant who graduated from or is currently
177 enrolled in a program at a university or college outside the
178 United States or Canada must present documentation of the
179 determination of equivalency of the program to standards
180 established by an accrediting body recognized by the Council for
181 Higher Education Accreditation or its successor or the United
182 States Department of Education in order to qualify.

183 2. The board may waive the education, practicum, and
184 professional employment experience requirements for an applicant
185 who received a professional education in another country if the

186 board is satisfied that the applicant meets equivalent education
 187 and practicum requirements and passes the examination in
 188 audiology. This paragraph expires on January 1, 2012. The
 189 ~~applicant must have completed 60 semester hours that include:~~
 190 ~~1. Fundamental information applicable to the normal~~
 191 ~~development and use of speech, hearing, and language;~~
 192 ~~information about training in management of speech, hearing, and~~
 193 ~~language disorders; and information supplementary to these~~
 194 ~~fields.~~
 195 ~~2. Six semester hours in speech-language pathology.~~
 196 ~~3. Thirty of the required 60 semester hours in courses~~
 197 ~~acceptable toward a graduate degree by the college or university~~
 198 ~~in which these courses were taken, of which 24 semester hours~~
 199 ~~must be in audiology.~~
 200 ~~(c) Completed 300 supervised clinical clock hours with 200~~
 201 ~~clock hours in the area of audiology or completed the number of~~
 202 ~~clock hours required by an accredited institution meeting~~
 203 ~~national certification standards. The supervised clinical clock~~
 204 ~~hours shall be completed within the training institution or one~~
 205 ~~of its cooperating programs.~~
 206 ~~(4) An applicant who has received a master's degree or is~~
 207 ~~currently enrolled in a doctoral degree program with a major~~
 208 ~~emphasis in speech-language pathology as provided in subsection~~
 209 ~~(2), or audiology as provided in subsection (3), and who seeks~~
 210 ~~licensure in the area in which the applicant is not currently~~
 211 ~~licensed, must have completed 30 semester hours in courses~~
 212 ~~acceptable toward a graduate degree and 200 supervised clinical~~

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213 | ~~clock hours in the second discipline from an accredited~~
 214 | ~~institution.~~

215 | ~~(4)(5)~~ The board, by rule, shall establish requirements
 216 | for the renewal of a provisional license. However, a provisional
 217 | license may not exceed a period of 24 months.

218 | Section 2. Section 468.1165, Florida Statutes, is amended
 219 | to read:

220 | 468.1165 Professional employment experience
 221 | requirement.--Every applicant for licensure as a speech-language
 222 | ~~speech~~ pathologist ~~or audiologist~~ shall demonstrate, prior to
 223 | licensure, a minimum of 9 months of full-time professional
 224 | employment, or the equivalent in part-time professional
 225 | employment, pertinent to the license being sought. Each
 226 | applicant for licensure as an audiologist shall demonstrate,
 227 | prior to licensure, a minimum of 11 months of full-time
 228 | professional employment or the equivalent in part-time
 229 | professional employment. The board, by rule, shall establish
 230 | standards for obtaining and verifying the required professional
 231 | employment experience.

232 | Section 3. Subsections (2) and (3) of section 468.1185,
 233 | Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

234 | 468.1185 Licensure.--

235 | (2) The board shall certify for licensure any applicant
 236 | who has:

237 | (a) Satisfied the education and supervised clinical
 238 | experience ~~clock-hour~~ requirements of s. 468.1155.

239 | (b) Satisfied the professional experience requirement of
 240 | s. 468.1165.

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241 (c) Passed the licensure examination required by s.
242 468.1175.

243 (d) If an applicant for an audiologist license, obtained a
244 doctoral degree in audiology and satisfied the education and
245 supervised clinical experience requirements of paragraph (a) and
246 the professional experience requirements of paragraph (b).

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

250 (a) Holds a valid license or certificate in another state
251 or territory of the United States to practice the profession for
252 which the application for licensure is made, if the criteria for
253 issuance of such license were substantially equivalent to or
254 more stringent than the licensure criteria which existed in this
255 state at the time the license was issued; or

256 (b) Holds a valid ~~Has received the~~ certificate of clinical
257 competence of the American Speech-Language and Hearing
258 Association or board certification in audiology from the
259 American Board of Audiology.

260 Section 4. Subsections (2), (3), and (4) of section
261 468.1215, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

262 468.1215 Speech-language pathology assistant and audiology
263 assistant; certification.--

264 (2) The department shall issue a certificate as an
265 audiology assistant to each applicant who the board certifies
266 has:

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

269 (b) Earned a high school diploma or its equivalent
 270 ~~Completed at least 24 semester hours of coursework as approved~~
 271 ~~by the board at an institution accredited by an accrediting~~
 272 ~~agency recognized by the Council for Higher Education~~
 273 ~~Accreditation.~~

274 (3) An audiologist or speech-language pathologist who
 275 employs a speech-language assistant or audiology assistant shall
 276 provide the assistant with a plan approved by the board for on-
 277 the-job training and shall maintain responsibility for all
 278 services performed by the assistant. The board, by rule, shall
 279 establish minimum education and on-the-job training and
 280 supervision requirements for certification as a speech-language
 281 pathology assistant or audiology assistant.

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

286 Section 5. This act shall take effect July 1, 2005.