

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 are currently enrolled in a
12 speech-language pathology or audiology program at a
13 university located outside of 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
22 requirements for the department to issue a license to an
23 applicant to practice speech-language pathology or

HB 747

2006
CS

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

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

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

35 | 468.1155 Provisional license; requirements.--

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

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

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

HB 747

2006
CS

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

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

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

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

77 b. Knowledge of the nature of speech, language, hearing,
78 and communication disorders and differences and swallowing
79 disorders, including their etiologies; anatomical or

HB 747

2006
CS

80 physiological characteristics; acoustic, psychological,
81 developmental, and linguistic and cultural correlates; voice and
82 resonance, including respiration and phonation; receptive and
83 expressive language in speaking, listening, reading, writing,
84 and manual modalities; hearing, including the impact on speech
85 and language; swallowing; cognitive aspects of communication;
86 social aspects of communication; and communication modalities.

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

95 2. The program must include appropriate supervised
96 clinical experiences.

97
98 The board may waive the requirements for education, practicum,
99 and professional employment experience for an applicant who
100 received a professional education in another country if the
101 board is satisfied that the applicant meets the equivalent
102 education and practicum requirements and passes the examination
103 in speech-language pathology. ~~60 semester hours that include:~~

104 ~~1. Fundamental information applicable to the normal~~
105 ~~development and use of speech, hearing, and language;~~
106 ~~information about training in management of speech, hearing, and~~

HB 747

2006
CS

107 ~~language disorders, and information supplementary to these~~
108 ~~fields.~~

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

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

114 ~~(c) Completed 300 supervised clinical clock hours with 200~~
115 ~~clock hours in the area of speech language pathology or~~
116 ~~completed the number of clock hours required by an accredited~~
117 ~~institution meeting national certification standards. The~~
118 ~~supervised clinical clock hours shall be completed within the~~
119 ~~training institution or one of its cooperating programs.~~

120 (3) The department shall issue a provisional license to
121 practice audiology to each applicant who the board certifies
122 has:

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

125 (b) Effective January 1, 2008, earned a doctoral degree in
126 audiology, but has not passed the license examination required
127 for a license in audiology or has completed the academic
128 requirements of ~~Received a master's degree or is currently~~
129 ~~enrolled in a doctoral degree program with a major emphasis in~~
130 ~~audiology from an institution of higher learning that which is,~~
131 ~~or at the time the applicant was enrolled and graduated was,~~
132 ~~accredited by an accrediting agency recognized by the Council~~
133 ~~for Higher Education Accreditation or its successor or the~~
134 United States Department of Education or from an institution

HB 747

2006
CS

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

144 1. The program must ensure that the student obtained
145 knowledge of foundation areas of basic body systems and
146 processes related to hearing and balance.

147 2. The program must ensure that the student obtained
148 skills for the diagnosis, management, and treatment of auditory
149 and vestibular or balance conditions and diseases.

150 3. The program must ensure that the student can
151 effectively communicate with patients and other health care
152 professionals.

153 4. The program must ensure that the student obtained
154 knowledge of professional ethical systems as they relate to the
155 practice of audiology.

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

159
160 The board may waive the education, practicum, and professional
161 employment experience requirements for an applicant who received
162 a professional education in another country if the board is

HB 747

2006
CS

163 satisfied that the applicant meets equivalent education and
164 practicum requirements and passes the examination in audiology.

165 (c) Has earned a master's degree with a major emphasis in
166 audiology which was conferred before January 1, 2008, from an
167 institution of higher learning which was, or at the time the
168 applicant was enrolled and graduated, accredited by an
169 accrediting agency recognized by the Council for Higher
170 Education Accreditation or its successor or the United States
171 Department of Education or from an institution that is a member
172 in good standing with the Association of Universities and
173 Colleges of Canada.

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

181 2. The board may waive the education, practicum, and
182 professional employment experience requirements for an applicant
183 who received a professional education in another country if the
184 board is satisfied that the applicant meets equivalent education
185 and practicum requirements and passes the examination in
186 audiology. This paragraph expires January 1, 2013. ~~The applicant~~
187 ~~must have completed 60 semester hours that include:~~

188 ~~1. Fundamental information applicable to the normal~~
189 ~~development and use of speech, hearing, and language,~~
190 ~~information about training in management of speech, hearing, and~~

HB 747

2006
CS

191 ~~language disorders, and information supplementary to these~~
192 ~~fields.~~

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

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

198 ~~(c) Completed 300 supervised clinical clock hours with 200~~
199 ~~clock hours in the area of audiology or completed the number of~~
200 ~~clock hours required by an accredited institution meeting~~
201 ~~national certification standards. The supervised clinical clock~~
202 ~~hours shall be completed within the training institution or one~~
203 ~~of its cooperating programs.~~

204 ~~(4) An applicant who has received a master's degree or is~~
205 ~~currently enrolled in a doctoral degree program with a major~~
206 ~~emphasis in speech language pathology as provided in subsection~~
207 ~~(2), or audiology as provided in subsection (3), and who seeks~~
208 ~~licensure in the area in which the applicant is not currently~~
209 ~~licensed, must have completed 30 semester hours in courses~~
210 ~~acceptable toward a graduate degree and 200 supervised clinical~~
211 ~~clock hours in the second discipline from an accredited~~
212 ~~institution.~~

213 (4)(5) The board, by rule, shall establish requirements
214 for the renewal of a provisional license. However, a provisional
215 license may not exceed a period of 24 months.

216 Section 2. Section 468.1165, Florida Statutes, is amended
217 to read:

HB 747

2006
CS

218 468.1165 Professional employment experience
 219 requirement.--Every applicant for licensure as a speech-language
 220 ~~speech~~ pathologist must ~~or audiologist shall~~ demonstrate, prior
 221 to licensure, a minimum of 9 months of full-time professional
 222 ~~employment, or the equivalent in part-time professional~~
 223 ~~employment, pertinent to the license being sought.~~ Each
 224 applicant for licensure as an audiologist must demonstrate,
 225 prior to licensure, a minimum of 11 months of full-time
 226 professional employment or the equivalent in part-time
 227 professional employment. The board, by rule, shall establish
 228 standards for obtaining and verifying the required professional
 229 employment experience.

230 Section 3. Subsections (2) and (3) of section 468.1185,
 231 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

232 468.1185 Licensure.--

233 (2) (a) The board shall certify for licensure any applicant
 234 who has:

235 1.(a) Satisfied the education and supervised clinical
 236 ~~clock hour~~ requirements of s. 468.1155.

237 2.(b) Satisfied the professional experience requirement of
 238 s. 468.1165.

239 3.(e) Passed the licensure examination required by s.
 240 468.1175.

241 (b) An applicant for an audiologist license who has passed
 242 the licensure requirements of s. 468.1175 and obtained a
 243 doctoral degree in audiology has satisfied the education and
 244 supervised clinical requirements of subparagraph (2) (a)1. and

HB 747

2006
CS

245 | the professional experience requirements of subparagraph
 246 | (2) (a) 2.

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~~

HB 747

2006
CS

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 must
276 provide the assistant with a plan approved by the board for on-
277 the-job training and must 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, 2006.