



## 1995 ASSEMBLY BILL 429

June 6, 1995 – Introduced by Representatives UNDERHEIM, KAUFERT, OLSEN, URBAN, ROBSON, GOETSCH, BALDUS, ALBERS and GROTHMAN, cosponsored by Senator SCHULTZ. Referred to Committee on Health.

1     **AN ACT to amend** 459.01 (4), 459.07 (2), 459.07 (4), 459.085 and 459.12 (2) of the  
2             statutes; **relating to:** the calibration of audiometric equipment, statutory  
3             references to hearing aid dealers and fitters and granting rule-making  
4             authority.

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### *Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau*

Under current law, audiometric equipment that is used in the evaluation of hearing sensitivity for the fitting and sale of hearing aids must be calibrated not less than once every 6 months, and certification of the required calibrations must be sent to the hearing and speech examining board (board). This bill eliminates the requirement that audiometric equipment be calibrated at least once every 6 months and instead requires the board to set the frequency of required calibrations.

Also, current law relating to the licensure of hearing instrument specialists contains several references to “hearing aid dealers and fitters” even though a hearing instrument specialist is defined as a person licensed to engage in the practice of dealing in or fitting hearing aids. This bill changes the references to “hearing aid dealers and fitters” to “hearing instrument specialists”.

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*The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:*

5             **SECTION 1.** 459.01 (4) of the statutes is amended to read:  
6             459.01 (4) “License” means a license issued by the department under s. 459.05,  
7             to hearing aid ~~dealers or fitters~~ instrument specialists.

1           **SECTION 2.** 459.07 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

2           459.07 (2) Upon receiving an application under this section, accompanied by  
3 the fee under s. 440.05 (6), the examining board may grant a trainee permit which  
4 may entitle the applicant to practice fitting of hearing aids for a period of one year.  
5 A person holding a valid hearing aid ~~dealers or fitters~~ instrument specialist license  
6 shall be responsible for the direct supervision and training of the applicant and shall  
7 be liable for all negligent acts and omissions of the trainee in the fitting of hearing  
8 aids.

9           **SECTION 3.** 459.07 (4) of the statutes is amended to read:

10          459.07 (4) The examining board shall encourage the establishment of  
11 educational courses for the training of all persons wishing to become licensed hearing  
12 aid ~~dealers and fitters~~ instrument specialists.

13          **SECTION 4.** 459.085 of the statutes is amended to read:

14          **459.085 Calibration of audiometric equipment.** Audiometric equipment  
15 used in the evaluation of hearing sensitivity for the fitting and sale of hearing aids  
16 shall be calibrated ~~not less than once every 6 months~~ periodically, as specified by rule  
17 by the examining board. Certification of these calibrations shall be sent to the  
18 examining board with the renewal fee required in s. 459.09.

19          **SECTION 5.** 459.12 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

20          459.12 (2) The examining board shall ~~by rules establish~~ promulgate rules  
21 establishing the frequency of the calibrations, the standards for the calibrations and  
22 the standards for the certifications required by s. 459.085.

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(END)