

WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO



2009 Senate Bill 358

Senate Bill 358 contains the following provisions:

- Changes the definition of deceptive advertising by hearing instrument specialists, to encompass representations which are misleading, false, or untruthful.
- Prohibits hearing instrument specialists from making intentional or negligent misrepresentations regarding a hearing aid or service, and intentionally or negligently misrepresent the cause of a hearing impairment, or cure by use of a hearing aid.
- Deletes requirements for annual filing with the Hearing and Speech Examining Board of a list of persons employed, by a corporation or mercantile establishment, to sell or fit hearing aids.
- Deletes requirement that certification of calibration of audiometric equipment be sent to the board.
- Eliminates Advisory Council on Speech Language Pathology and Audiology in the Department of Regulation and Licensing
- Changes requirements for licensure of audiologists, to require a doctoral degree in audiology.

Senate Amendment 1

Senate Amendment 1 changes the language that must be present on a receipt provided to a purchaser of a hearing aid from a hearing instrument specialist. Under the bill, the receipt is required to state that the fitting of the hearing aid does not constitute an examination, opinion, or diagnosis by a

person licensed to practice medicine *or audiology*, and is not a medical *or audiological* opinion. The amendment deletes the references to the practice of audiology and audiological opinion, thus changing the required language on the receipt back to current law, which must refer only to the practice of medicine and rendering of a medical opinion.

Legislative History

On March 16, 2010, the Senate Committee on Health, Health Insurance, Privacy, Property Tax Relief, and Revenue recommended adoption of Senate Amendment 1, and recommended passage of the bill, as amended, both on votes of Ayes, 7; Noes, 0.

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