

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH  
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

**FISCAL NOTE**

L.R. No.: 3795-01  
Bill No.: HB 1545  
Subject: Health Care Professionals; Licenses - Professional  
Type: Original  
Date: March 28, 2006

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**FISCAL SUMMARY**

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND</b>			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue Fund</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS</b>			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009
Hearing Instrument Specialist	\$0	(\$54,900)	(\$2,400)
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>Other</u> State Funds</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>(\$54,900)</b>	<b>(\$2,400)</b>

Numbers within parentheses: ( ) indicate costs or losses.  
This fiscal note contains 4 pages.

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> Federal Funds</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009
<b>Local Government</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

### FISCAL ANALYSIS

#### ASSUMPTION

Officials from the **Department of Economic Development - Division of Professional Registration (DED-PR)** state the Hearing Instrument Specialist Fund will have a decrease of \$54,900 (210 audiologists with dual licenses X \$250) in the first renewal year plus \$2,400 less each year for original licenses (16 fewer new applicants/year X \$150) based on the fact that 46% of the Board of Hearing Instrument Specialists (BEHIS) licensees are audiologists. The BEHIS averages 35 new licensees per year. These licensees would continue paying the hearing arts \$50 fee for audiology licensure.

The DED-PR states the Board of Examiners for Hearing Instrument Specialists will have to evaluate their fees after losing almost one half of their licensees.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT - State Government</u>	FY 2007 (10 Mo.)	FY 2008	FY 2009
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#### **HEARING INSTRUMENT SPECIALIST FUND**

#### Loss - Department of Economic Development

Reduction in licensure revenue	<u>\$0</u>	<u>(\$54,900)</u>	<u>(\$2,400)</u>
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#### **ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON HEARING INSTRUMENT SPECIALIST FUND**

<u>\$0</u>	<u>(\$54,900)</u>	<u>(\$2,400)</u>
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FISCAL IMPACT - Local Government

FY 2007  
(10 Mo.)

FY 2008

FY 2009

\$0

\$0

\$0

FISCAL IMPACT - Small Business

The proposal may impact small business hearing instrument specialists as there would be a reduction in licensure fees.

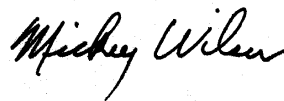
DESCRIPTION

This proposal changes the laws regarding the practice of audiology and the duties of the State Board of Registration for the Healing Arts. The proposal: (1) Requires audiologists to follow the same purchase agreements as hearing aid fitters and dealers when fitting, programming, and dispensing hearing instruments, assistive listening devices, or amplification systems; (2) Requires the board to adopt standards relating to hearing aid dispensing to ensure consumer protection equal to that provided by hearing aid fitters and dealers; and (3) Allows the board to charge audiology fees needed to supplement revenue fees available to support the administration of the Board of Examiners of Hearing Instrument Specialists.

This legislation is not federally mandated, would not duplicate any other program and would not require additional capital improvements or rental space.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Department of Economic Development -  
Division of Professional Registration



Mickey Wilson, CPA

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