

HB 1988 -- HEARING INSTRUMENTS

SPONSOR: Moon

This bill changes the laws regarding hearing instruments. The bill:

- (1) Defines "consumer support provider" as any individual or agency who provides consumer support and outreach services including a licensed physician, audiologist, speech pathologist, hearing instrument specialist or a qualified agency;
- (2) Requires eligible subscribers to be referred to the certifying consumer support provider for services;
- (3) Expands the definition of "hearing instrument" that can provide more than 15 decibel full-on gain via a two cc coupler at any single frequency from 200 through 600 cycles per second;
- (4) Modifies the definition of the "practice of fitting hearing instruments"; and
- (5) Increases the membership of the Missouri Board of Examiners for Hearing Instrument Specialists from five to seven members. One hearing instrument specialist may be an audiologist and one may be an otolaryngologist.