

HB 2591 -- LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS FOR SPEECH-LANGUAGE
PATHOLOGISTS

SPONSOR: Stinnett

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Professional Registration and Licensing by a vote of 20 to 0. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules-Administrative by a vote of 10 to 0.

Currently, a requirement for licensure for speech-language pathologists and audiologists is submitting evidence of completion of a clinical fellowship from supervisors. The period of employment must be under the direct supervision of a person who is licensed by the State of Missouri in the profession in which the applicant seeks to be licensed.

This bill changes the period of employment to be under the direct supervision of a speech-language pathologist in good standing.

This bill is similar to HB 765 (2025).

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that we have a speech-language pathologist shortage in this state, especially in rural areas. We need to make sure we are doing everything we can to make it easier for more speech-language pathologists to come to Missouri from other states.

Testifying in person for the bill were Representative Stinnett and Missouri Speech-Language-Hearing Association.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

Written testimony has been submitted for this bill. The full written testimony and witnesses testifying online can be found under Testimony on the bill page on the House website.