

SENATE BILL 449

J2

3lr2407
CF HB 401

By: **Senators Gile, Beidle, Ellis, Hershey, Kramer, Mautz, and Ready**

Introduced and read first time: February 2, 2023

Assigned to: Finance

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Health Occupations – Practice Audiology – Definition**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the definition of “practice audiology” for the purposes of certain
4 provisions of law governing the licensure of audiologists; and generally relating to
5 the practice of audiology.

6 BY renumbering

7 Article – Health Occupations

8 Section 2–101(r) through (u)

9 to be Section 2–101(s) through (v), respectively

10 Annotated Code of Maryland

11 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2022 Supplement)

12 BY adding to

13 Article – Health Occupations

14 Section 2–101(q)

15 Annotated Code of Maryland

16 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2022 Supplement)

17 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

18 Article – Health Occupations

19 Section 2–101(q)

20 Annotated Code of Maryland

21 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2022 Supplement)

22 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

23 Article – Health Occupations

24 Section 2–301(a)(1)

25 Annotated Code of Maryland

26 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2022 Supplement)

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
2 That Section(s) 2–101(r) through (u) of Article – Health Occupations of the Annotated Code
3 of Maryland be renumbered to be Section(s) 2–101(s) through (v), respectively.

4 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Laws of Maryland read
5 as follows:

6 **Article – Health Occupations**

7 2–101.

8 **(Q) “OSSEO-INTEGRATED DEVICE” MEANS A BONE-ANCHORED HEARING**
9 **DEVICE OR COCHLEAR IMPLANTS.**

10 **[(q)] (R) [(1)] “Practice audiology” means to [apply]:**

11 **(1) APPLY** the principles, methods, and procedures of measurement,
12 prediction, evaluation, testing, counseling, consultation, and instruction that relate to the
13 development and disorders of hearing, vestibular functions, and related language and
14 speech disorders, to [prevent or modify the disorders or assist individuals in hearing and
15 auditory and related skills for communication.] **ORDER, EVALUATE, DIAGNOSE,**
16 **MANAGE, OR TREAT ANY AUDITORY OR VESTIBULAR CONDITION IN THE HUMAN EAR;**
17 **AND**

18 **(2) [“Practice audiology” includes the fitting or selling of] PRESCRIBE,**
19 **ORDER, SELL, DISPENSE, OR FIT** hearing aids **OR OSSEO-INTEGRATED DEVICES TO**
20 **AN INDIVIDUAL FOR THE CORRECTION OR RELIEF OF A CONDITION FOR WHICH**
21 **HEARING AIDS OR OSSEO-INTEGRATED DEVICES ARE WORN.**

22 2–301.

23 **(a) (1)** Except as otherwise provided in this title, an individual shall be
24 licensed by the Board before the individual may practice audiology, hearing aid dispensing,
25 speech–language pathology, or music therapy, or assist in the practice of speech–language
26 pathology or audiology in this State.

27 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
28 October 1, 2023.