

## 1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act to amend and reenact § 54.1-2600 of the Code of Virginia, relating to practice of audiology;*  
3 *cerumen management.*

4 [H 500]

5 Approved

6 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**7 **1. That § 54.1-2600 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**8 **§ 54.1-2600. Definitions.**

9 As used in this chapter, unless the context requires a different meaning:

10 "Audiologist" means any person who engages in the practice of audiology.

11 "Board" means the Board of Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology.

12 "Practice of audiology" means the practice of conducting measurement, testing and evaluation  
13 relating to hearing and vestibular systems, including audiologic and electrophysiological measures, and  
14 conducting programs of identification, hearing conservation, habilitation, and rehabilitation for the  
15 purpose of identifying disorders of the hearing and vestibular systems and modifying communicative  
16 disorders related to hearing loss, including but not limited to vestibular evaluation, *limited cerumen*  
17 *management*, electrophysiological audiometry and cochlear implants. Any person offering services to the  
18 public under any descriptive name or title which would indicate that audiology services are being  
19 offered shall be deemed to be practicing audiology.

20 "Practice of speech-language pathology" means the practice of facilitating development and  
21 maintenance of human communication through programs of screening, identifying, assessing and  
22 interpreting, diagnosing, habilitating and rehabilitating speech-language disorders, including but not  
23 limited to:

24 1. Providing alternative communication systems and instruction and training in the use thereof;

25 2. Providing aural habilitation, rehabilitation and counseling services to hearing-impaired individuals  
26 and their families;

27 3. Enhancing speech-language proficiency and communication effectiveness; and

28 4. Providing audiologic screening.

29 Any person offering services to the public under any descriptive name or title which would indicate  
30 that professional speech-language pathology services are being offered shall be deemed to be practicing  
31 speech-language pathology.

32 "Speech-language disorders" means disorders in fluency, speech articulation, voice, receptive and  
33 expressive language (syntax, morphology, semantics, pragmatics), swallowing disorders, and cognitive  
34 communication functioning.

35 "Speech-language pathologist" means any person who engages in the practice of speech-language  
36 pathology.

37 **2. That the Board of Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology shall promulgate regulations**  
38 **governing cerumen management by audiologists, which shall include requirements related to**  
39 **training and qualifications of audiologists who perform cerumen management, to implement the**  
40 **provisions of this act to be effective within 280 days of its enactment.**

ENROLLED

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