

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE BILL NO. 47

BY HEALTH AND WELFARE COMMITTEE

AN ACT

1 RELATING TO THE SPEECH AND HEARING SERVICES PRACTICE ACT; AMENDING SECTION  
2 54-2918, IDAHO CODE, TO REMOVE AN EXCEPTION TO LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS  
3 AND TO PROVIDE FOR A LICENSE BY ENDORSEMENT; AND AMENDING SECTION  
4 54-2927, IDAHO CODE, TO PROVIDE PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE UNLAWFUL  
5 PRACTICE OF HEARING AID DEALING AND FITTING.  
6

7 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

8 SECTION 1. That Section 54-2918, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby  
9 amended to read as follows:

10 54-2918. ~~EXCEPTION TO LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS LICENSE BY ENDORSEMENT~~  
11 ~~AND EDUCATIONAL EQUIVALENCY. (1) Prior to July 1, 2006, the board may deem~~  
12 ~~other education or examination equivalent to licensure requirements, pro-~~  
13 ~~vided that the board is satisfied, and the applicant provides documentation~~  
14 ~~acceptable to the board, that such applicant:~~

15 ~~(a) Has engaged in the practice of audiology or speech-language pathol-~~  
16 ~~ogy in this state prior to July 1, 2005, as provided in administrative~~  
17 ~~rules; and~~

18 ~~(b) Has practiced for not less than five (5) years in the field for which~~  
19 ~~such applicant is applying for licensure under this chapter; and~~

20 ~~(c) Applies for licensure prior to July 1, 2006~~

21 The board may issue a license by endorsement. An applicant for licensure by  
22 endorsement shall substantiate to the board that the applicant holds a cur-  
23 rent, active and unrestricted equivalent license in another state or United  
24 States territory. The applicant shall apply for a license by endorsement on  
25 such forms, pay such fees and satisfy such other requirements as may be pro-  
26 vided by board rule.

27 (2) For applicants who received their professional education outside  
28 of the United States, the board may deem such education acceptable, provided  
29 that the board is satisfied, and the applicant provides documentation ac-  
30 ceptable to the board, that equivalent education requirements have been met.  
31 The board, in its discretion, may require by rule that applicants who re-  
32 ceived their professional education outside of the United States provide ad-  
33 ditional information to the board concerning such professional education.  
34 The board may also, in its discretion, require successful completion of ad-  
35 ditional coursework before proceeding with the application process.

36 SECTION 2. That Section 54-2927, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby  
37 amended to read as follows:

38 54-2927. UNLAWFUL PRACTICE -- PENALTIES. (1) It shall be unlawful for  
39 any person to practice or offer to practice audiology, ~~or~~ speech-language  
40 pathology or hearing aid dealing and fitting in this state, or to use in con-

1 nection with his or her name or otherwise assume, use or advertise any title  
2 or description tending to convey the impression that he or she is an audi-  
3 ologist, ~~or~~ speech-language pathologist or hearing aid dealer and fitter,  
4 unless such person has been appropriately licensed under the provisions of  
5 this chapter.

6 (2) It shall be unlawful for any person to aid, abet or require another  
7 person, licensed or unlicensed, to directly or indirectly violate or evade  
8 any provision of this chapter, or to combine or conspire with another person,  
9 or permit one's license to be used by another person, or to act as an agent,  
10 partner, associate or otherwise, of another person with the intent to vio-  
11 late or evade the provisions of this chapter.

12 (3) A violation of the provisions of this chapter shall constitute a  
13 misdemeanor and any person convicted thereof shall be fined an amount not to  
14 exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000), or imprisoned in a county jail for a  
15 period not to exceed six (6) months, or shall be punished by both such fine  
16 and imprisonment.