



One Hundred First Legislature - First Session - 2009
Introducer's Statement of Intent
LB 451

Chairperson: Tim Gay
Committee: Health and Human Services
Date of Hearing: February 12, 2009

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

LB 451 has two purposes: to change terms in the statutes that govern the fitting and dispensing of hearing aids, and to change the membership of the board that regulates hearing aid specialists.

LB 451 changes terms throughout the statutes as follows: "Hearing aid" is changed to "hearing instrument"; the name of the act is changed from the "Hearing Aid Dispensers and Fitters Practice Act" to the "Hearing Instrument Specialists Practice Act"; and the phrase "dispensing and fitting" is replaced with the word "specialist."

Section 16 of the bill deals with membership of the Board of Hearing Aid Instrument Dispensers and Fitters. Currently the six-member board is comprised of a member of the public, an audiologist, an otolaryngologist, and three hearing aid dispensers and fitters who may be dually licensed as audiologists. LB 451 would remove the provision that allows the dispensers and fitters to be dually licensed as audiologists.

Principal Introducer: _____
Senator Kathy Campbell