

# HOUSE RESEARCH

## Bill Summary

**FILE NUMBER:** H.F. 464

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**Version:** As introduced

**Authors:** Westrom and others

**Subject:** Hearing Instrument Dispensers

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### Overview

This bill changes the credential required for hearing instrument dispensers from certification to licensure, modifies continuing education requirements, and requires hearing instrument dispensers to be reimbursed at the same rate as audiologists for hearing tests performed for fitting and dispensing hearing aids under the MA program.

#### Section

- 1 Dispenser of hearing instruments.** Amends § 153A.13, subd. 5. Changes the credential required for hearing instrument dispensers from certification to licensure.
- 2 Licensure number.** Amends § 153A.13, subd. 8. Changes the credential required for hearing instrument dispensers from certification to licensure.
- 3 Application for licensure.** Amends § 153A.14, subd. 1. Changes the credential required for hearing instrument dispensers from certification to licensure.
- 4 Issuance of license.** Amends § 153A.14, subd. 2. Changes the credential required for hearing instrument dispensers from certification to licensure.
- 5 Action on applications for licensure.** Amends § 153A.14, subd. 2b. Changes the credential required for hearing instrument dispensers from certification to licensure.
- 6 Reapplication following denial, rejection, revocation, or suspension of licensure.** Amends § 153A.14, subd. 2c. Changes the credential required for hearing instrument dispensers from certification to licensure.
- 7 Licensure renewal notice.** Amends § 153A.14, subd. 2d. Changes the credential required for hearing instrument dispensers from certification to licensure.

## Section

- 8       **Renewal requirements.** Amends § 153A.14, subd. 2e. Changes the credential required for hearing instrument dispensers from certification to licensure.
- 9       **Late renewals.** Amends § 153A.14, subd. 2f. Changes the credential required for hearing instrument dispensers from certification to licensure.
- 10       **Lapse in licensure.** Amends § 153A.14, subd. 2g. Changes the credential required for hearing instrument dispensers from certification to licensure.
- 11       **Licensure by examination.** Amends § 153A.14, subd. 2h. Changes the credential required for hearing instrument dispensers from certification to licensure.
- 12       **Continuing education requirement.** Amends § 153A.14, subd. 2i. Changes the credential required for hearing instrument dispensers from certification to licensure. Modifies continuing education requirements for hearing instrument dispensers.
- 13       **Required use of license number.** Amends § 153A.14, subd. 2j. Changes the credential required for hearing instrument dispensers from certification to licensure.
- 14       **Nontransferability of license.** Amends § 153A.14, subd. 3. Changes the credential required for hearing instrument dispensers from certification to licensure.
- 15       **Dispensing of hearing instruments without license.** Amends § 153A.14, subd. 4. Changes the credential required for hearing instrument dispensers from certification to licensure.
- 16       **Trainees.** Amends § 153A.14, subd. 4a. Changes the credential required for hearing instrument dispensers from certification to licensure.
- 17       **Reciprocity.** Amends § 153A.14, subd. 4c. Changes the credential required for hearing instrument dispensers from certification to licensure.
- 18       **Rulemaking authority.** Amends § 153A.14, subd. 5. Changes the credential required for hearing instrument dispensers from certification to licensure.
- 19       **Prohibited acts.** Amends § 153A.15, subd. 1. Changes the credential required for hearing instrument dispensers from certification to licensure.
- 20       **Enforcement actions.** Amends § 153A.15, subd. 2. Changes the credential required for hearing instrument dispensers from certification to licensure.
- 21       **Penalties.** Amends § 153A.15, subd. 4. Changes the credential required for hearing instrument dispensers from certification to licensure.
- 22       **Expenses; fees.** Amends § 153A.17. Changes the credential required for hearing instrument dispensers from certification to licensure.
- 23       **Membership.** Amends § 153A.20, subd. 1. Changes the credential required for hearing instrument dispensers from certification to licensure.
- 24       **Duties.** Amends § 153A.20, subd. 3. Changes the credential required for hearing instrument dispensers from certification to licensure.
- 25       **Speech language pathology and audiology services.** Amends § 256B.0625, subd. 8b. Requires hearing instrument dispensers to be reimbursed at the same rate as audiologists for hearing tests performed for fitting and dispensing hearing aids under the MA program.
- 26       **Conforming rules.** Requires the commissioner of human services to amend Minnesota Rules to allow a licensed dispenser of hearing aids to perform an audiologic evaluation. Allows the commissioner to use the good cause exemption for rulemaking, except the procedure for adopting exempt rules does not apply.
- 27       **Waiver.** Requires the commissioner to request a waiver from federal regulations if necessary to implement the changes to MA reimbursement under section 25.
- 28       **Repealer.** Repeals the written examination exemption for audiologists.
- 29       **Effective date.** Makes sections 1 to 24, 27, and 28 effective the day following final enactment. Makes sections 25 and 26 effective the day following final enactment, or, if a

**Section**

federal waiver is required, on the date the federal waiver is granted.