

SENATE BILL 714

J2

4lr3038
CF 4lr1052

By: **Senators Kramer and Hershey**

Introduced and read first time: January 31, 2024

Assigned to: Finance

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **State Board of Examiners for Audiologists, Hearing Aid Dispensers,**
3 **Speech–Language Pathologists, and Music Therapists – Appointment of**
4 **Members**

5 FOR the purpose of requiring the Governor to appoint licensed audiologist members to the
6 State Board of Examiners for Audiologists, Hearing Aid Dispensers,
7 Speech–Language Pathologists, and Music Therapists from a list submitted by a
8 certain professional organization rather than by the Board; and generally relating to
9 the appointment of members to the State Board of Examiners for Audiologists,
10 Hearing Aid Dispensers, Speech–Language Pathologists, and Music Therapists.

11 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
12 Article – Health Occupations
13 Section 2–202(a)(1) and (2)(i)
14 Annotated Code of Maryland
15 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

16 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
17 Article – Health Occupations
18 Section 2–202(a)(5)
19 Annotated Code of Maryland
20 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

21 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
22 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

23 **Article – Health Occupations**

24 2–202.

25 (a) (1) The Board consists of 15 members.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



(2) Of the 15 Board members:

(i) 3 shall be licensed audiologists who have at least 5 years' paid work experience in audiology and are currently practicing audiology in the State;

(5) (i) Subject to subparagraph (iii) of this paragraph, the Governor shall appoint the audiologist members, with the advice of the Secretary, from a list submitted to the Secretary and the Governor by the [Board] **MARYLAND ACADEMY OF AUDIOLOGY**.

(ii) The number of names on the list shall be at least 3 times the number of vacancies.

(iii) For each audiologist vacancy, the Board shall notify all licensed audiologists in the State of the vacancy to solicit nominations to fill the vacancy.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2024.