

Subject: Single Licensure Status

1 Whereas, audiologists are professionals with Master’s or Doctoral Degrees in audiology, and
2 hold state licenses that reflect the scope of practice that includes diagnostic and treatment services
3 for persons with hearing and balance disorders, and
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5 Whereas, audiologists are uniquely educated and trained in the evaluation, assessment,
6 diagnosis, management, treatment and prevention of hearing and balance problems, and
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8 Whereas, university training programs provide for rigorous theoretical and clinical education
9 and training in the area of hearing aids and hearing assistive technologies, and
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11 Whereas, audiologists are regulated by state licensure or registration in all fifty states and the
12 District of Columbia, and
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14 Whereas, in most states audiologists are currently able to dispense hearing aids and hearing
15 assistive technology under a single audiology license, and
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17 Whereas, these states recognize that the education and training of audiologists ensures consumer
18 protection in the evaluation, selection, fitting, selling, and provision of counseling and follow-up
19 care, without requiring a separate license, and
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21 Whereas, there is significant disparity in educational levels between licensed audiologists and
22 hearing aid dealers/dispensers, and
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24 Whereas, consumers can be confused by the requirement for audiologists to hold two separate
25 licenses when the scope of practice of audiology is significantly more extensive than services
26 offered by hearing aid dealers/dispensers, and
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28 Whereas, in *Gandee v. Glaser*, the Federal Court established a legal differentiation between
29 audiologists and commercial hearing aid dealers.
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31 RESOLVED, that audiologists by virtue of their education and training may treat hearing loss
32 with hearing aids and hearing assistive technology under a single audiology license.
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34 References: *Gandee v. Glaser*, **19 F.3d 1432** (6th Cir. 1994), Available at:
35 <http://bulk.resource.org/courts.gov/c/F3/19/19.F3d.1432.92-3304.html>.
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