

## 2021 LEGISLATIVE ADVISORY

The Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology and Hearing Aid Dispensers Board (Board) would like to notify you of legislative changes that may impact your practice and/or the profession. Unless otherwise specified, these changes are effective as of January 1, 2022.

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### **AB 107 (Salas) Licensure: veterans and military spouses**

**Status:** Chapter 693, Statutes of 2021

**Bill Summary:** This bill, beginning January 1, 2023, requires the Board to issue a temporary license within 30 days to applicants currently licensed in another state who are married to or in a domestic partnership with an active duty member of the military currently stationed in California. The temporary license is nonrenewable and expires 12 months after issuance, upon issuance of a permanent license, or upon denial of an application for a permanent license.

**Impact on Applicants:** Military spouses currently licensed in another state may be issued a temporary license if the Board is unable to issue a permanent license or deny an application for a permanent license within 30 days.

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### **AB 435 (Mullin) Hearing aids: locked programming software: notice**

**Status:** Chapter 266, Statutes of 2021

**Bill Summary:** This bill requires hearing aid dispensers and dispensing audiologists to provide a purchaser with a written notice if the hearing aid being purchased uses proprietary or locked programming software. The written notice must be signed by the purchaser and the licensee is required to retain a copy consistent with current record retention requirements.

**Impact on Licensees:** Board licensees selling locked hearing aids must ensure that all contracts signed by their patients and/or clients contain a written notice in 12-point type or larger that states the following: “The hearing aid being purchased uses proprietary or locked programming software and can only be serviced or programmed at specific facilities or locations.”

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### **AB 1221 (Flora) Consumer warranties: service contracts: cancellation: disclosures**

**Status:** Chapter 452, Statutes of 2021

**Bill Summary:** This bill expands the Song-Beverly Consumer Warranty Act to require a service contract that continues until cancelled by the buyer or service contractor to meet specified

conditions including disclosing in a clear and conspicuous manner that the service contract continues until cancelled and providing contact information the buyer can use to cancel the service contract.

***Impact on Licensees:*** Board licensees that offer these type of service contracts must ensure that all contracts contain a clause that the service contract continues until cancelled and provide a toll-free number, email address, and postal address the buyer can use to cancel the service contract.

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**[SB 607 \(Min\)](#) Business and professions**

***Status:*** Chapter 367, Statutes of 2021

***Bill Summary:*** This bill, beginning July 1, 2022, requires the Board to waive the application fee and initial license fee for applicants currently licensed in another state who are married to or in a domestic partnership with an active duty member of the military currently stationed in California.

***Impact on Applicants:*** Military spouses currently licensed in another state will not need to submit an application fee or initial license fee prior to licensure; however, exam and fingerprinting fees will still apply.