

2/9/17

Dear Members of the House Health Committee:

I am an audiology extern at Associated Audiologists, Inc. I will be graduating from a doctoral-level audiology program in May. I uphold temporary licensure with both the Kansas Department of Aging and Disability Services (KDADS) and the Kansas Board of Examiners in Fitting and Dispensing of Hearing Instruments (KBHAE).

I support the passage of HB 2195, which would transfer the powers of KBHAE to KDADS, but allow the Hearing Aid Board to act in an advisory capacity. If this bill were to pass, it would improve transparency and efficiency for licensees and consumers.

The KBHAE lacks some features available that place burden on those applying for licensure and consumers wishing to contact the office. They do not have a website or contact information readily available, and they only employ one staff person with limited hours. This process takes weeks and when I recently had to change something on my license, it was a lengthy process. It will not affect the way hearing instrument specialists' ability to be licensed and will not increase a cost to Kansas.

Kansas, consumers, and licensees have only positives to gain with the passage of HB 2195.

Thank you for your consideration,

**Katie B. Petrosky**  
**Audiology Extern**

Associated Audiologists, Inc.  
8800 W. 75th Street, Suite #101  
Shawnee Mission, KS 66204  
(913) 403-0018