



# THE OHIO BOARD OF SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY AND AUDIOLOGY

## NEWSLETTER SPRING 2006

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### 2006 LICENSE RENEWAL

License renewals will begin following the 4<sup>th</sup> of July holiday. Renewals must be completed by licensees no later than September 30, 2006. Renewals completed between October 1<sup>st</sup> and December 31, 2006 will be charged a \$150 fee.

Reminders will be sent to licensees in the beginning of July with information on how to renew on line. The letters will contain User Names and Passwords, needed to complete an on line renewal. Fees for renewal have been reduced to \$100 for the speech-language pathology license or the audiology license. The dual license fee is \$150.

All licensees should ensure the Board has current address information. Change of address can be done by email to [board@slpaud.state.oh.us](mailto:board@slpaud.state.oh.us)

The renewal will require that licensees attest to completion of appropriate continuing education hours obtained between October 1, 2004 and September 30, 2006, as long as the education hours were not used in the 2004 license renewal.

Once a licensee has completed the renewal they may begin collecting continuing education starting October 1, 2006 for the 2008 renewal.

We encourage all licensees to apply on line. On line renewal insures a documented receipt of your renewal and avoids any lost renewals through the U.S. Mail. The Board does not charge licensees for this service.

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## CONSOLIDATION

The House Finance and Appropriations Committee removed language from the H.B. 530, the budget corrections bill that would have consolidated the Board of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology under the Superintendent of Professional Regulation in the Department of Commerce in July 2007. The language was deleted during the mark up of the budget bill on Monday night. The language to consolidate 20 regulatory boards under the Division of Professional Regulation was included in the budget bill even though Senate leadership was opposed to consolidation. We do not anticipate any attempt to resurrect the consolidation language in the Senate.

In response to the removal of the consolidation language Gongwer news service reported, *"In another setback for the Taft administration, its plan to consolidate certain functions of 20 regulatory boards and commission within the Department of Commerce - already on life support in the skeptical legislature - was finally put to rest. The House struck from the bill language providing for the consolidation on July 1, 2007 because of intense opposition and the lack of sufficient evidence that the moves would save money. Various regulatory boards have made the case against the proposal, arguing among other things that they are fee-based oversight panels that have the support of their respective professions - some of which were also vocal in their opposition to the plan. 'They've been pounding and pounding and pounding on members,' the House GOP chief of staff said."*

The Governmental Affairs Coalition was instrumental in terms of testimony and coordination of a grass roots campaign by Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists in defeating the consolidation.

***The Board appreciates the efforts of all of those that contacted their legislators and voiced their opposition to the consolidation. Your voices were heard.***

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## **PROPOSED RULE CHANGES**

On an annual basis the Board reviews its rules (Administrative Code 4753) to reflect changes in the professions and to update our application of our statute (Revised Code 4753). Additionally, the Board is required to review each rule at least every five years (Five Year Rule). If there is no change indicated in the rule remains the same.

This year the Board is proposing a change in **4753-9-01 Code of Ethics** to reflect the acceptance of the current standards of practice and training recognized by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association or the American Academy of Audiology. Given the technological and procedural changes in the practice of audiology and speech-language pathology, this rule defines the scope of practice as currently accepted by the leading professional organizations representing the two professions.

The change is highlighted below in 4753 (A) (5).

### **4753-9-01 Code of Ethics.**

(A) Preamble: Licensees shall hold tantamount the health and welfare of person(s) served.

(1) Licensees shall respect and protect the inherent worth, integrity, dignity and rights of each person served including his/her right of self determination.

(2) The relationship between the professional and the person(s) served or supervised makes it imperative that the professional is aware of the vulnerability of the person(s) served or supervised, licensees shall not:

- (a) Discriminate in his/her relationships with person(s) served or supervised, colleagues, students, and members of the allied professions on the basis of race, ethnicity, gender, age, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, or disability.
  - (b) Engage in sexual or intimate relations the person(s) served or supervised.
  - (c) Harass or abuse person(s) served or supervised.
  - (d) Engage in the evaluation or remediation of speech, language, or hearing disorders except in a professional relationship.
  - (e) Participate in activities that constitute a conflict of interest.
- (3) Licensees shall use reasonable precautions to protect the health and welfare of person(s) served in the delivery of professional services and in research.
- (4) Licensees shall be proficient in areas of treatment, objective in the application of skills, and maintain concern for the best interests of person(s) served or supervised, colleagues, and society as a whole.
- (5) Licensees shall practice within the established standards of practice and training recognized by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association or the American Academy of Audiology.**

Two rules were reviewed under the Five Year Rule, with a recommendation for no change in the rules. These rules apply to speech pathology aides and audiology aides.

**4753-5-02 Speech-language pathology aide or audiology aide;  
fee for initial license fee for renewal of license.**

**4753-7-03 Renewal of aide license.**

The Board will conduct a Public Hearing on the 2006 Rules on July 24 at 1:00 PM in the Board Room on the 31<sup>st</sup> Floor of the Riffe Center at 77 South High St., Columbus Ohio.