1	HOUSE BILL 475
2	50TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2011
3	INTRODUCED BY
4	Eliseo Lee Alcon
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10	AN ACT
11	RELATING TO PROFESSIONAL LICENSES; AMENDING THE SPEECH-LANGUAGE
12	PATHOLOGY, AUDIOLOGY AND HEARING AID DISPENSING PRACTICES ACT;
13	ADDING A SCOPE OF PRACTICE FOR CLINICAL FELLOWS; INCREASING
14	BOARD MEMBERSHIP; CONFORMING STATE LICENSURE TO NATIONAL
15	STANDARDS; CHANGING RENEWAL TERMS; INCREASING LICENSE FEES;
16	PROVIDING FOR BILINGUAL AND MULTILINGUAL ENDORSEMENTS;
17	AMENDING, REPEALING AND ENACTING SECTIONS OF THE NMSA 1978.
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19	BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:
20	SECTION 1. Section 61-14B-2 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1996,
21	Chapter 57, Section 2, as amended) is amended to read:
22	"61-14B-2. DEFINITIONSAs used in the Speech-Language
23	Pathology, Audiology and Hearing Aid Dispensing Practices Act:
24	A. "apprentice" means a person working toward full
25	licensure in speech-language pathology who meets the
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requirements for licensure as an apprentice in speech and language pursuant to the Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology and Hearing Aid Dispensing Practices Act;

B. "appropriate supervisor" means a person licensed pursuant to the provisions of the Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology and Hearing Aid Dispensing Practices Act who has a minimum of two years' experience as a speech-language pathologist after the person's clinical fellowship year;

9 [B.] C. "auditory trainer" means a custom-fitted FM
10 amplifying instrument other than a hearing aid designed to
11 enhance signal-to-noise ratios;

[<del>C.</del>] <u>D.</u> "audiologist" means a person who engages in the practice of audiology, who may or may not dispense hearing aids and who meets the qualifications set forth in the Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology and Hearing Aid Dispensing Practices Act;

[<del>D.</del>] <u>E.</u> "board" means the speech-language pathology, audiology and hearing aid dispensing practices board;

[E.] <u>F.</u> "business location" means a permanent physical business location in New Mexico where records can be examined and process served;

 $[F_{r}]$  <u>G.</u> "clinical fellow" means a person who has completed all academic course work and practicum requirements for a master's degree or the equivalent in speech-language .184690.2 - 2 -

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pathology or audiology or both and engages in the practice of speech-language pathology or audiology as set forth in the provisions of the Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology and Hearing Aid Dispensing Practices Act;

[G.] <u>H.</u> "clinical fellowship year" or "CFY" means the time following the completion of all academic course work and practicum requirements for a master's degree in speechlanguage pathology or audiology or both and during which a clinical fellow is working [towards] toward a certificate of clinical competence from a nationally recognized speechlanguage or hearing association or the equivalent;

[H. "CFY supervisor" means a person licensed pursuant to the provisions of the Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology and Hearing Aid Dispensing Practices Act who oversees the work of a clinical fellow and is so designated in the CFY plan that is approved by the board;]

I. "department" means the regulation and licensing
department;

J. "hearing aid" means [any] <u>a</u> wearable instrument or device designed or offered for the purpose of aiding or compensating for impaired human hearing and any parts, attachments or accessories, including earmolds but excluding batteries and cords;

K. "hearing aid dispenser" means [any] <u>a</u> person other than [<del>a</del>] <u>an</u> audiologist or an otolaryngologist who is .184690.2

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licensed to sell, fit and service hearing aids [under] pursuant <u>to</u> the Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology and Hearing Aid Dispensing Practices Act and maintains or occupies a permanent physical business location in New Mexico where records can be examined and process can be served;

L. "otolaryngologist" means a licensed physician who has completed a recognized residency in otolaryngology and is certified by the American board of otolaryngology;

M. "paraprofessional" means a person who provides adjunct speech-pathology or audiology services under the direct supervision of a licensed speech-language pathologist or audiologist;

N. "practice of audiology" means the application of principles, methods and procedures of measurement, testing, appraisal, prognostication, aural rehabilitation, aural habilitation, consultation, hearing aid selection and fitting, counseling, instruction and research related to hearing and disorders of hearing for the purpose of nonmedical diagnosis, prevention, identification, amelioration or the modification of communicative disorders involving speech, language auditory function or other aberrant behavior related to hearing disorders;

0. "practice of hearing aid dispensing" means the behavioral measurement of human hearing for the purpose of the selection and fitting of hearing aids or other rehabilitative

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devices to ameliorate the dysfunction of hearing sensitivity; this may include otoscopic inspection of the ear, fabrication of ear impressions and earmolds, instruction, consultation and counseling on the use and care of these instruments, medical referral when appropriate and the analysis of function and servicing of these instruments involving their modification or adjustment;

"practice of speech-language pathology" means 8 Ρ. 9 the rendering or offering to render to individuals, groups, organizations or the public any service in speech or language 10 pathology involving the nonmedical application of principles, 11 12 methods and procedures for the measurement, testing, diagnosis, prognostication, counseling and instruction related to the 13 14 development and disorders of communications, speech, fluency, voice, verbal and written language, auditory comprehension, 15 cognition, dysphagia, oral pharyngeal or laryngeal sensorimotor 16 competencies and treatment of persons requiring use of an 17 augmentative communication device for the purpose of nonmedical 18 diagnosing, preventing, treating and ameliorating such 19 disorders and conditions in individuals and groups of 20 individuals; 21

Q. "screening" means a pass-fail procedure to identify individuals who may require further assessment in the areas of speech-language pathology, audiology or hearing aid dispensing;

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1 "speech-language pathologist" means a person who R. 2 engages in the practice of speech-language pathology and who meets the qualifications set forth in the Speech-Language 3 Pathology, Audiology and Hearing Aid Dispensing Practices Act; 4 s. "sponsor" means a licensed hearing aid 5 dispenser, audiologist or otolaryngologist who has an 6 7 endorsement to dispense hearing aids and: is employed in the same business location 8 (1)where the trainee is being trained; and 9 (2) has been actively engaged in the 10 dispensing of hearing aids during three of the past five years; 11 12 т. "student" means [any] a person who is a full- or part-time student enrolled in an accredited college or 13 14 university program in speech-language pathology, audiology or communicative disorders; 15 "supervisor" means a speech-language pathologist U. 16 or audiologist licensed pursuant to the provisions of the 17 Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology and Hearing Aid Dispensing 18 Practices Act who provides supervision in the area of speech-19 20 language pathology or audiology; and "trainee" means a person working toward full V. 21 licensure as a hearing aid dispenser under the direct 22 supervision of a sponsor." 23 SECTION 2. A new section of the Speech-Language 24 Pathology, Audiology and Hearing Aid Dispensing Practices Act, 25 .184690.2 - 6 -

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Section 61-14B-3.2 NMSA 1978, is enacted to read:

"61-14B-3.2. [<u>NEW MATERIAL</u>] SCOPE OF PRACTICE--CLINICAL FELLOW OF SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY.--

A. The scope of practice for a clinical fellow of speech-language pathology under the supervision by an appropriate supervisor shall include:

(1) rendering or offering to render professional services, including diagnosis, prevention, identification, evaluation, consultation, habilitation, rehabilitation, instruction, counseling, prognostication, training and research to individuals or groups of individuals who have or are suspected of having disorders of communication, including speech comprehension, voice, fluency, language in all its expressive and receptive forms, including oral expression, reading, writing and comprehension, oral pharyngeal function, oral motor function, dysphagia, functional maintenance therapy or cognitive-communicative processes; and

(2) determining the need for personal augmentative and alternative communication systems, computer access or assistive technology, recommending such systems and providing set-up, modification, training, troubleshooting and follow-up in the utilization of such systems.

B. The scope of practice for a clinical fellow of speech-language pathology under the supervision by an appropriate supervisor may include:

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1	(1) conducting pure-tone air conduction
2	hearing screening or tympanometry screening, limited to a pass
3	or fail determination, for the purpose of performing a speech
4	and language evaluation or for the initial identification of
5	individuals with other disorders of communications; and
6	(2) aural rehabilitation that is defined as
7	services and procedures for facilitation of adequate receptive
8	and expressive communication in individuals who are deaf or
9	hearing impaired."
10	SECTION 3. Section 61-14B-5 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1996,
11	Chapter 57, Section 5, as amended) is amended to read:
12	"61-14B-5. SCOPE OF PRACTICEAUDIOLOGISTS
13	A. The scope of practice for audiologists shall
14	include:
15	(1) the rendering or offering to render
16	professional services, including nonmedical diagnosis,
17	prevention, identification, evaluation, consultation,
18	counseling, habilitation, rehabilitation and instruction on and
19	prognostication of individuals having or suspected of having
20	disorders of hearing, balance or central auditory processing;
21	(2) identification and evaluation of auditory
22	function through the performance and interpretation of
23	appropriate behavioral or electrophysiological tests for this
24	purpose;
25	(3) making ear impressions for use with

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1 auditory trainers or for non-amplified devices such as swim 2 molds or ear protectors; 3 cerumen management; [and] (4) evaluation and management of tinnitus; and 4 (5) (6) the scope of practice for hearing aid 5 6 dispensers. 7 Β. The scope of practice for audiologists may include: 8 9 (1) consultation regarding noise control or environmental noise evaluation; 10 hearing conservation; (2)11 12 (3) calibration of equipment used in hearing testing and environmental evaluation; 13 14 (4) fitting and management of auditory trainers, including their general service, adjustment and 15 analysis of function, as well as instruction, orientation and 16 counseling in the use and care of these instruments; 17 speech or language screening for the (5) 18 19 purposes of audiological evaluation or initial identification for referral of individuals with disorders of communication 20 other than hearing; [and] 21 supervision of students, clinical fellows (6) 22 and paraprofessionals; and 23 [C. The scope of practice for audiologists may be 24 expanded by special endorsement to include the dispensing of 25 .184690.2 - 9 -

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1 hearing aids. This expanded scope: 2 (1) shall include the scope of practice for audiologists as specified in Subsections A and B of this 3 4 section; (2) shall include the scope of practice for 5 6 hearing aid dispenser; and (3) may include] (7) the sponsorship of 7 hearing aid dispenser trainees." 8 9 SECTION 4. Section 61-14B-9 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1996, Chapter 57, Section 9) is amended to read: 10 "61-14B-9. BOARD CREATED.--11 12 There is created the "speech-language pathology, Α. audiology and hearing aid dispensing practices board" that 13 14 shall be administratively attached to the department. The board shall consist of [ten] eleven members 15 Β. who have been New Mexico residents for at least five years 16 prior to their appointment. Among the membership, [two] three 17 18 members shall be licensed speech-language pathologists, two 19 members shall be licensed audiologists, two members shall be 20 licensed hearing aid dispensers, one member shall be a licensed otolaryngologist and three members shall represent the public 21 and have no interest, direct or indirect, in the profession 22 regulated. 23 C. [The] A licensed [members] member of the board 24 shall not hold any elected or appointed office in any related 25 .184690.2

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professional organization."

2 SECTION 5. Section 61-14B-12.1 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 3 2005, Chapter 250, Section 3) is amended to read: 4 "61-14B-12.1. REQUIREMENTS FOR LICENSURE--5 AUDIOLOGIST.--A license to practice as an audiologist shall be 6 issued to any person who: 7 files a completed application, accompanied by Α. the required fees and documentation; certifies that the 8 9 applicant is not guilty of any of the activities listed in Section 61-14B-21 NMSA 1978; and submits satisfactory evidence 10 that the applicant: 11 12 holds a master's degree in audiology or (1)13 communication disorders or an equivalent degree awarded prior 14 to January 1, 2007; meets the academic requirements for certification by a nationally recognized [speech-language or] 15 hearing association; and [currently holds] has earned a 16 17 certificate of clinical competence from a nationally recognized 18 [speech-language or] hearing association in the area that the 19 applicant is seeking licensure; [or] has completed the current academic, 20 (2) practicum and employment experience requirements for a 21 certificate of clinical competence in audiology from a 22 nationally recognized [speech-language or] hearing association 23 and has passed a nationally recognized standard examination; 24 25

(3) provides evidence satisfactory to the

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1 board of at least six months' experience in the dispensing of hearing aids through practical examination or other methods as 2 determined by the board in either a graduate training program 3 or in a work or training experience; and 4 (4) maintains or occupies a business location, 5 hospital, clinical medical practice or other facility where 6 7 hearing aids are regularly dispensed; or files a completed application, accompanied by 8 Β. the required fees and documentation, certifies that the 9 applicant is not guilty of any of the activities listed in 10 Section 61-14B-21 NMSA 1978 and submits satisfactory evidence 11 12 that the applicant: holds a [doctoral degree in] doctor of 13 (1) 14 audiology degree or equivalent degree regardless of degree name and meets academic requirements for certification by a 15 nationally recognized [speech-language or] hearing association; 16 17 [and] [has completed the current academic. (2) 18 19 practicum and employment requirements of a nationally 20 recognized speech-language or hearing association; and] has passed a nationally recognized standard examination in 21 audiology if required by rule; 22 (3) provides evidence satisfactory to the 23 board of at least six months' experience in the dispensing of hearing aids through practical examination or other methods as 25 .184690.2

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1 determined by the board in either a graduate training program 2 or in a work or training experience; and (4) maintains or occupies a business location, 3 hospital, clinical medical practice or other facility where 4 hearing aids are regularly dispensed." 5 SECTION 6. Section 61-14B-14 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1996, 6 7 Chapter 57, Section 14, as amended) is amended to read: 8 "61-14B-14. REQUIREMENTS FOR LICENSURE BY EXAMINATION--9 HEARING AID DISPENSER. --10 A license to practice as a hearing aid dispenser Α. shall be issued to [any] a person who files a completed 11 12 application, passes the examination approved by the board, pays the required fees, provides required documentation and submits 13 14 satisfactory evidence that the person: [(1) is an audiologist, a clinical fellow in 15 16 audiology or an otolaryngologist; or 17 (2) (1) is a person other than an 18 audiologist, a clinical fellow in audiology or an 19 otolaryngologist applying for a license under the Speech-20 Language Pathology, Audiology and Hearing Aid Dispensing Practices Act; [and who 21 (a) (2) has reached the age of majority and 22 has at least a high school education or the equivalent; 23 (3) has met any additional educational 24 25 requirement of the board; .184690.2

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1	[ <del>(b)</del> ] <u>(4)</u> has worked for no less than seven
2	months under a training permit; and
3	[ <del>(c)</del> ] <u>(5)</u> certifies that [ <del>he</del> ] <u>the person</u> is
4	not guilty of any of the activities listed in Section 61-14B-21
5	NMSA 1978.
6	B. The examination for hearing aid dispenser shall
7	be conducted by the board quarterly unless there are no
8	applicants for examination.
9	C. The board:
10	(1) shall provide procedures to [ <del>assure</del> ]
11	ensure that examinations for licensure are offered as needed;
12	(2) shall establish rules regarding the
13	examination application deadline and other rules relating to
14	the taking and retaking of licensure examinations;
15	(3) shall determine a passing grade for the
16	examination; and
17	(4) may accept an applicant's examination
18	scores used for national certification or other examination
19	approved by the board."
20	SECTION 7. Section 61-14B-15 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1996,
21	Chapter 57, Section 15) is amended to read:
22	"61-14B-15. REQUIREMENTS FOR LICENSURECLINICAL FELLOW
23	OF SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGYCLINICAL FELLOW OF AUDIOLOGYA
24	license to practice as a clinical fellow of speech-language
25	pathology or audiology shall be issued to [ <del>any</del> ] <u>a</u> person who
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A. has met all academic course work and practicum
requirements for a master's degree in speech-language
pathology, speech pathology, communication disorders or
audiology or both for certification by a nationally recognized
speech-language or hearing association;

10 B. has filed a CFY plan that meets with board 11 approval;

C. certifies that [he] <u>the person</u> has received no reprimands of unprofessional conduct or incompetency;

D. applies for licensure under Section [<del>12 of the</del> Speech Language Pathology, Audiology and Hearing Aid Dispensing Practices Act] <u>61-14B-12 NMSA 1978</u> after completing the clinical fellowship year; and

E. has [a CFY] <u>an appropriate</u> supervisor [<del>who:</del> (1) is a speech-language pathologist or audiologist licensed under the provisions of the Speech Language Pathology, Audiology and Hearing Aid Dispensing Practices Act; and

(2) has registered with the board as a CFY
supervisor for the clinical fellowship year]."
SECTION 8. Section 61-14B-15.1 NMSA 1978 (being Laws

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1999, Chapter 128, Section 8, as amended) is amended to read:

"61-14B-15.1. REQUIREMENTS FOR LICENSURE--APPRENTICE IN SPEECH AND LANGUAGE.--A license to practice as an apprentice in speech and language shall be issued by the board to a person who files a completed application accompanied by the required fees and documentation and provides satisfactory evidence that the applicant:

8 A. is working toward full licensure pursuant to the
9 provisions of the Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology and
10 Hearing Aid Dispensing Practices Act;

B. has a baccalaureate degree in speech-language pathology or communicative disorders or an equivalent degree or a baccalaureate degree in another field with thirty semester hours of credit in speech-language pathology or communicative [disorder] disorders;

C. is enrolled in and successfully completes graduate classes in speech-language pathology [<del>or</del>], communicative disorders <u>or a related field</u> at a minimum rate of nine semester hours per year and is accepted into a master's level program in speech-language pathology or communicative disorders within two years of initial licensing;

D. maintains a minimum of a 3.0 grade point average in the master's degree course and other work;

E. is supervised by [<del>a person licensed as a speech-language pathologist who has a minimum of two years experience</del>.184690.2

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1 as a speech-language pathologist] an appropriate supervisor; 2 and 3 [F. receives a minimum of ten percent direct 4 supervision and ten percent indirect supervision] F. has arranged for appropriate supervision to meet 5 the supervision requirements as defined by rule." 6 7 SECTION 9. Section 61-14B-18 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1996, Chapter 57, Section 18) is amended to read: 8 9 "61-14B-18. SCOPE OF HEARING AID DISPENSING 10 EXAMINATION. -- In preparing the hearing aid dispensing examination, the board shall use tests that demonstrate: 11 12 knowledge in the fitting and sale of hearing Α. aids, including basic physics of sound, anatomy and physiology 13 14 of the ear and the function of hearing aids; and proficient use of techniques for the fitting of 15 B. hearing aids, including: 16 pure-tone audiometry, including air 17 (1)18 conduction and bone conduction testing; 19 (2)live voice or recorded voice speech 20 audiometry, including speech reception threshold and speech recognition score tests; 21 masking when indicated; (3) 22 recording and evaluation of audiograms and (4) 23 speech audiometry for determining proper selection, fitting and 24 25 adjustment of hearing aids; .184690.2 - 17 -

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1 taking earmold impressions; and (5) 2 (6) analyzing hearing aid function, modification and general service." 3 SECTION 10. Section 61-14B-19 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1996, 4 5 Chapter 57, Section 19) is amended to read: "61-14B-19. LICENSE RENEWAL.--6 7 Each licensee shall renew [his] the licensee's Α. 8 license [every year] biennially by submitting a renewal 9 application as provided for in the board's regulations. The board may establish a method to provide for staggered biennial 10 terms, including renewing licenses for one year to establish 11 12 the renewal cycle. The board may require proof of continuing 13 education as a requirement for renewal. 14 Β. A sixty-day grace period shall be allowed to each licensee after each licensing period. A license may be 15 renewed during the grace period upon payment of a renewal fee 16 and a late fee as prescribed by the board. 17 18 C. Any license not renewed by the end of the grace 19 period will be considered expired, and the licensee shall not 20 be eligible to practice within the state until the license is The board shall develop rules regarding requirements 21 renewed. for renewal of an expired license and may require the licensee 22 to reapply as a new applicant. 23

D. Clinical fellow licenses may be renewed for no more than three years; provided the clinical fellow has

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1 submitted evidence of:

2 (1) passing a recognized standard national 3 examination in [either] speech-language pathology [or audiology or both] prior to or within [his first] the clinical fellow's 4 second year of the CFY. The CFY license will not be renewed 5 the second year without evidence of passing a recognized 6 7 standard national examination in [either] speech-language 8 pathology [or audiology or both]; and 9 (2) evidence of continued supervision and satisfactory performance. 10 The board may issue rules providing for inactive Ε. 11 12 status of licenses. F. Hearing aid dispensing licenses may be renewed 13 14 provided the hearing aid dispenser has submitted evidence that the licensee is board-certified by the national board for 15 certification in hearing instrument sciences as provided in the 16 speech-language pathology, audiology and hearing aid dispensing 17 practices board's rules." 18 19 SECTION 11. Section 61-14B-20 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1996, 20 Chapter 57, Section 20, as amended) is amended to read: "61-14B-20. FEES.--The board shall establish a schedule 21 of reasonable fees for applications, licenses, renewal of 22 licenses, exams, penalties and administrative fees. 23 The license and license renewal fees shall not exceed: 24 [fifty dollars (\$50.00)] one hundred dollars 25 Α.

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1 (\$100) for clinical fellows and apprentices in speech and 2 language; [one hundred dollars (\$100)] three hundred 3 Β. dollars (\$300) for audiologists or speech-language 4 5 pathologists; [three hundred dollars (\$300)] four hundred C. 6 7 dollars (\$400) for hearing aid dispensers; [two hundred dollars (\$200)] three hundred 8 D. dollars (\$300) for examinations; 9 [one hundred dollars (\$100)] two hundred dollars 10 Ε. (\$200) for late renewal fees; 11 12 F. [two hundred dollars (\$200)] three hundred dollars (\$300) for hearing aid dispensing endorsement; 13 G. five hundred dollars (\$500) for a hearing aid 14 dispenser trainee license, which fee includes examination, both 15 written and practical; [and] 16 H. reasonable administrative fees; and 17 I. one hundred dollars (\$100) for bilingual or 18 multilingual endorsement." 19 20 SECTION 12. A new section of the Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology and Hearing Aid Dispensing Practices Act 21 is enacted to read: 22 "[NEW MATERIAL] REQUIREMENTS FOR BILINGUAL OR MULTILINGUAL 23 ENDORSEMENT.--A bilingual or multilingual endorsement shall be 24 25 issued to a person who: .184690.2 - 20 -

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1 files a completed application, accompanied by Α. 2 the required fees and documentation, certifies that the applicant is not guilty of any of the activities listed in 3 Section 61-14B-21 NMSA 1978 and submits satisfactory evidence 4 5 that the applicant: is eligible for and in the process of 6 (1)7 obtaining a license; has completed the required education as 8 (2) 9 determined by board rule; has met experience requirements approved 10 (3) by the board; and 11 12 (4) is proficient, as determined by the board, in a specified language; and either 13 submits satisfactory evidence that the 14 Β. applicant: 15 (1) has an active license in good standing in 16 the state of New Mexico as a speech-language pathologist; and 17 (2) 18 has: a current bilingual endorsement from 19 (a) 20 the public education department; or a minimum of five years practicing (b) 21 with clients who use a language other than English and is 22 proficient in the specified language as determined by the 23 board: or 24 submits satisfactory evidence that the C. 25 .184690.2 - 21 -

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1 applicant: 2 (1) has an active license in good standing in 3 another state or country as a speech-language pathologist; has a minimum of five years practicing 4 (2) 5 with clients who use a language other than English; and 6 (3) is proficient in the specified language as 7 determined by the board." SECTION 13. REPEAL.--Section 61-14B-13 NMSA 1978 (being 8 9 Laws 1996, Chapter 57, Section 13, as amended) is repealed. 10 SECTION 14. EFFECTIVE DATE.--The effective date of the 11 provisions of this act is July 1, 2011. 12 - 22 -13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 .184690.2

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