

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 43rd Legislature (1992)

HOUSE BILL NO. 1837

BY: NIEMI

AS INTRODUCED

AN ACT RELATING TO PROFESSIONS AND OCCUPATIONS;

AMENDING 59 O.S. 1991, SECTION 1603, WHICH RELATES
TO SPEECH PATHOLOGY AND AUDIOLOGY; MODIFYING
DEFINITIONS; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 59 O.S. 1991, Section 1603, is
amended to read as follows:

Section 1603. In this act, unless the context otherwise
requires:

1. "Board" means the State Board of Examiners for Speech
Pathology and Audiology;
2. "Person" means any individual, partnership, organization or
corporation, except that only individuals can be licensed under this
act;
3. "Licensed speech pathologist" or "licensed audiologist"
means an individual to whom a license has been issued pursuant to
the provisions of the act, which license has not expired or has not
been suspended or revoked;
4. "Speech pathologist" means any person who evaluates,
examines, counsels or provides rehabilitative services for persons

who have or are suspected of having a speech, voice and/or language disorder, and who meets the qualifications set forth in Section ~~5~~ 1605 of this ~~act~~ title. Disorders are here defined to include any and all conditions that impede the normal process of human vocal communication;

5. A person "represents himself to be a speech pathologist" when he holds himself out to the public by any title or description of services incorporating the words "speech pathology," "speech pathologist," "speech therapy," "speech therapist," "speech correction," "speech correctionist," "language therapy," "language therapist," "voice pathology," "voice pathologist," "voice therapy," "voice therapist," "logopedics," "logopedist," "communicology," "communicologist," "asphasiologist," "phoniatriest," "speech clinician," "speech clinic," "speech center" or any similar or related term or terms;

6. "The practice of speech pathology" is defined as rendering or offering to render to any person or the public any speech, voice or language evaluation, examination, counseling or rehabilitation of or for persons who have or are suspected of having a speech, voice and/or language disorder, and/or representing oneself to be a speech pathologist;

7. The speech pathologist is permitted to perform such basic audiometric tests and hearing therapy procedures as are consistent with his training;

8. "Audiologist" means any person who evaluates, examines, counsels or provides rehabilitative services for persons who have or are suspected of having a hearing disorder, and who meets the qualifications set forth in Section ~~5~~ 1605 of this ~~act~~ title. Disorders are here defined to include all conditions of decreased or impaired auditory function;

9. A person "represents himself to be an audiologist" when he holds himself out to the public by any title or description of

services incorporating the terms "audiology," "audiologist," "audiometry," "audiometrist," "hearing therapy," "hearing therapist," "hearing conservation," "hearing conservationist," "hearing clinician," "hearing clinic," "hearing center," or "audiological," ~~or "audiometrics";~~

10. "The practice of audiology" is defined as rendering, or offering to render, to any person or the public, the evaluation, examination, counseling or rehabilitation of or for persons who have or are suspected of having a hearing disorder, and/or representing oneself to be an audiologist. An audiologist also may provide consultation regarding noise control and hearing conservation, may conduct tests of vestibular function, may prepare ear impressions, and may provide evaluations of environment or equipment, including calibration, used in testing auditory functioning; and

11. "Hearing screening" may involve one or more procedures used to identify individuals who may have a hearing loss. Measurements of auditory thresholds are not included in hearing screening programs.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective September 1, 1992.

43-2-7209

KSM