

ENGROSSED SENATE
BILL NO. 685

By: Cain of the Senate

and

Blackburn of the House

[insurance - coverage - construing act - exclusion -
codification -

effective date]

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

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 6060.7 of Title 36, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. Any individual or group health insurance or health benefit plan agreement, contract or policy, including the State and Education Employees Group Insurance Board and any indemnity plan, not-for-profit hospital or medical service or indemnity contract, prepaid or managed care plan or provider agreement, and Multiple Employer Welfare Arrangement (MEWA) or employer self-insured plan, except as exempt under federal ERISA provisions, that is offered, issued, or renewed on or after the effective date of this act shall provide coverage for audiological services and hearing aids for children up to thirteen (13) years of age.

B. Nothing in this section shall be construed to extend the practice or privileges of any health care provider beyond that provided in the laws governing the provider's practice and privileges.

C. This requirement shall not apply to agreements, contracts or policies that provide coverage for a specified disease or other limited benefit coverage, or groups with fifty or fewer employees.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 1999.

Passed the Senate the 17th day of February, 1999.

President of the Senate

Passed the House of Representatives the ____ day of _____ ,
1999.

Speaker of the House of
Representatives