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From: Audiology & Hearing Aid Services, Inc.

To: sduperier@hearinghealthcareassoc.com

Sent: Wednesday, February 16, 2005 11:32 AM

Subject: testimony

This is to provide testimony to the issue regarding the proposed amendment by the Kansas Speech-Language-Hearing Association for giving blanket licensure for licensed audiologist to be able to dispense hearing aids without going through the current process of credentialing through the State Board of Hearing Aid Examiners. It is my opinion that while this is an extremely important matter and needs to be addressed. In order to look at all of the issues involving the regulatory and statutory changes that will be needed to bring this about more time needs to be spent in evaluating everything. It has been proposed and been agreed to in principle by both the State Board of Hearing Aid Examiners and the Kansas Speech-Lanaguage-Hearing Association that it would be more prudent to work through the summer and bring this amendment in front of the next legislative session rather than the current one. This approach seems to be in the best interest of all of the licensed professionals and consumers in the State of Kansas.

Haris Zafar, Ph.D., C.C.C.-A.

Fellow of the American Academy of Audiology