

Speech Pathologist and Audiologist Licensure; Sub. for HB 2659

Sub. for HB 2659 moves the licensing and regulation of speech-language pathologists and audiologists from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) to the Kansas Department on Aging and extends the number of successive terms a Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Board member will be allowed to serve. The existing Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Board (Board) will serve in an advisory role to the Secretary of Aging.

The Department on Aging will have the authority to promulgate rules and regulations to carry out its licensing and regulation responsibilities. Rules, regulations, orders, and directives of the Secretary of Health and Environment concerning speech-language pathologists and audiologists existing on the effective date of this act will be those of the Secretary of Aging until revised, amended, revoked, or nullified.

All KDHE records concerning speech-language pathologists and audiologists in existence on the effective date of this act will be transferred to the Secretary of Aging.

The bill also allows Board members to serve three successive two-year terms, instead of the two successive two-year terms allowed under prior law.