

State of Arkansas  
93rd General Assembly  
Regular Session, 2021

As Engrossed: H2/3/21  
**A Bill**

SENATE BILL 88

By: Senator Hester  
By: Representative Ladyman

### For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND THE COMPOSITION OF THE ARKANSAS BOARD  
OF HEARING INSTRUMENT DISPENSERS; AND FOR OTHER  
PURPOSES.

### Subtitle

TO AMEND THE COMPOSITION OF THE ARKANSAS  
BOARD OF HEARING INSTRUMENT DISPENSERS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 17-84-201(b), concerning the creation and composition of the Arkansas Board of Hearing Instrument Dispensers, is amended to read as follows:

*The board shall be composed of seven (7) voting members appointed by the Governor, subject to confirmation by the Senate, for terms of three (3) years, and one (1) nonvoting advisory member appointed by the Governor for a term of three (3) years as follows:*

(1)(A) At least four (4) of the members shall be hearing instrument dispensers licensed under this chapter who have held a valid license for at least three (3) years.

(B) The Governor shall consult the Arkansas Hearing Society, Inc., before making an appointment under subdivision (b)(1)(A) of this section;

~~(2) At least one (1) member shall be a physician licensed to practice medicine in Arkansas and specializing in otology or otolaryngology;~~

~~(3)~~(2) At least one (1) member shall be an audiologist holding a



master's degree or doctoral degree in audiology from a recognized college or university, ~~and~~

~~(4)(A)(3)(A) One (1) member~~ Two (2) members shall be appointed from the state at large to represent consumers.

(B) The consumer ~~representative~~ representatives under subdivision ~~(b)(4)(A)~~ (b)(3)(A) of this section shall not be actively engaged in or retired from the practice of dispensing hearing instruments.

(C) The consumer ~~representative~~ representatives under subdivision ~~(b)(4)(A)~~ (b)(3)(A) of this section shall be a full voting member ~~but shall not participate in the grading of examinations;~~ and

(4)(A) The advisory member shall be a physician licensed to practice medicine in Arkansas and specializing in otology or otolaryngology.

(B) The advisory member shall not count for or against the board's quorum requirement to conduct business.

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 17-84-202(b), concerning the organization and proceedings of the Arkansas Board of Hearing Instrument Dispensers, is amended to read as follows:

(b)~~(1)~~ ~~Any five (5) of the eight (8)~~ A majority of the members of the board, when properly convened, may conduct business of the board.

(2) The board may appoint one (1) or more of its members or any other person it deems appropriate as examiners for the purpose of hearing evidence, reporting findings thereon, and making recommendations to the entire board for a decision on any matter over which the board has authority.

/s/Hester

APPROVED: 3/1/21