



Oregon

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February 15, 2011 Newsflash

Senate Bill 141 Passes the Senate; Moves to the Oregon House

The Board has been working for almost a year to update the statute and rules that guide our work.

The statute governing the practice of speech-language pathology and audiology was last updated in 2005.

The Board (working through the Governor's Office) introduced Senate Bill 141 to update our statute to reflect best practices in the professions we regulate, grant clearer or broader authority to protect the public health and safety, and streamline agency operations. Both OSHA and OAA have demonstrated their support of this bill. The bill was approved by the Senate Committee on Health Care, Human Services, & Rural Health Policy on February 2nd, and was carried by Senator Kruse to the Senate floor, where it passed 27-3 on February 10th. It has now been read in the House, and will soon be assigned to a House Committee for consideration.

If successful, we expect the bill will be signed into law by the Governor, with an effective date of July 1, 2011. Since the bill will move some current statutory provisions into rule, the Board will consider and approve further rule changes this spring so that the effective dates for the statutory changes and the new rules coincide.

Linked below is a one-page summary of the key points of the bill, and a copy of the draft bill, showing anticipated changes from current language.