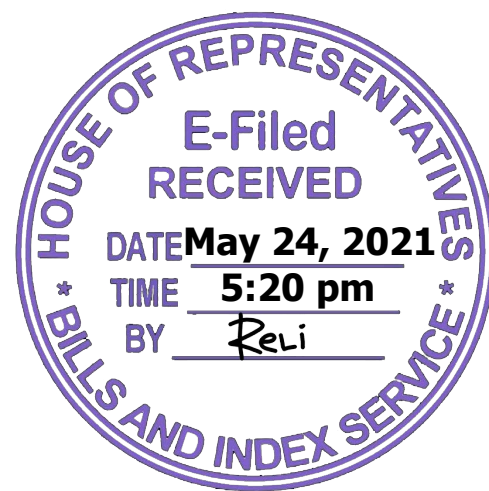


REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City



EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

House Bill No. 9430

Introduced by **MAGDALO Party-List Representative**

HON. MANUEL DG. CABOCHAN III

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Article II, Section 15 of the 1987 Constitution states that “the State shall protect and promote the people’s right to health and shall instill health consciousness among them.” Article 13, Section 11 further provides that “the State shall also adopt an integrated and comprehensive approach to health development which shall endeavor to make health services available to all the people at affordable cost.”

Aural health is an important component of an individual’s well-being. Communication is impossible without a healthy hearing. Unfortunately, quite a several Filipinos are affected by hearing impairment. According to a study by Better Hearing Philippines, around 38.5 percent of Filipinos experience hearing that is not the same in both ears, 23.3 percent experience trouble hearing, while 19.6 percent experience ringing in the ears.

Audiologists are persons who are qualified to practice audiology or the scientific discipline and health profession dedicated to the study and analysis of the human auditory function. Audiometricians are persons who are qualified to do audiometry or the measurement of hearing. Unfortunately, audiology and audiometry are not accorded professional status in the country. These two disciplines do not have their

professional regulatory boards unlike other medical professions such as Dentistry, Medicine, Nursing, Nutrition and Dietetics, Optometry, Pharmacy, Physical and Occupational Therapy, Psychology, and Respiratory Therapy. This lack of a professional status deters the development of audiology and audiometry in the country.

This bill seeks to professionalize the practice of audiology and provide institutional mechanisms for its regulation. Furthermore, this bill also provides mechanisms for the limited practice of audiometry.

The role of audiometrists in today's day and age is critical to fulfilling the government's commitment to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in 2008, which states that there should be full accessibility and recognition of the linguistic and cultural identity of persons with disability.

In view of the foregoing, approval of this measure is eagerly sought.



MANUEL DG. CABOCHAN III

Representative

Magdalo Para sa Pilipino Party-List

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

House Bill No. **9430**

Introduced by **MAGDALO Party-List Representative**
HON. MANUEL DG. CABOCHAN III

AN ACT
PROFESSIONALIZING AUDIOLOGY AND PROVIDING MECHANISMS FOR
ITS REGULATION, ACCREDITING AUDIOMETRY, SETTING STANDARDS
FOR AUDIOLOGIC AND AUDIOMETRIC EDUCATION, AND INTEGRATING
AUDIOLOGISTS AND AUDIOMETRICIANS INTO THE HEALTH CARE SYSTEM

Be it enacted by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

ARTICLE I
GENERAL PROVISIONS

SECTION. 1. *Short Title.*— This Act shall be known as the "*Audiology and Audiometry Regulation and Integration Act.*"

Sec. 2. *Declaration of Policy.*— The State shall adopt an integrated and comprehensive approach to the delivery of health services in pursuit of its constitutional mandate to protect and promote the peoples' right to health. Furthermore, the State also recognizes that the practice of audiology by professional and qualified audiologists and audiometry by accredited

1 audiometricians, and essential the promotion and protection of the people's right to
2 heath. Towards this end, the State shall:

3
4 (a) Promote the auditory health of the auditory welfare of the public and
5 integrate audiology and audiometry as regular components of
6 the national health care system;

7
8 (b) Professionalize audiology and recognize mechanisms for its regulation;

9
10 (c) Establish mechanisms for the accreditation of audiometry;

11
12 (d) Ensure compliance with the highest standards in audiologic and audiometric
13 practice;

14
15 (e) Regulate and provide uniform standards in the delivery of audiologic
16 education;

17 (f) Keep professional audiologists and audiometricians abreast with the latest
18 developments in their respective fields; and

19 (g) Prohibit and prosecute the unqualified or illegal practitioners of audiology.
20

21 *Sec. 3. Definition of Terms.*— As used in this Act:

22
23 (a) *Audiology* refers to the scientific discipline and health profession dedicated to
24 study and analysis of the human auditory function, whether normal or
25 disordered, as a component of human communicatory behavior.

26 It shall encompass the following acts:

27 (1) The analysis and evaluation of the human auditory function through the
28 employment of clinical behavioral and objective procedures and tests to
29 measure hearing and define the type, degree and communicative
30 consequences of hearing loss, including the use of specific instruments,
31 tools, equipment, implements, aids, apparatuses, machines, and related
32 devices, for the purpose of determining the condition, sensitivity and

1 acuity of human hearing to correct and improve the same when not
2 medically or surgically treatable;

3 (2) The selection, prescription, and dispensation of hearing aids, auditory
4 assistive devices and their accessories and solutions, and other similar
5 appliances and devices to correct or treat defects, deficiencies, and
6 abnormalities of audition that are not medically or surgically treatable;

7 (3) The use of educational techniques to enhance speech-reading or the visual
8 perception of speech and to improve auditory discrimination, and the
9 development and maintenance of optimal speech and voice skills;

10 (4) The development and application of effective strategies leading to the
11 optimal use of sensory and oral expressive skills in hearing-impaired
12 children and adults;

13 (5) The provision of counselling regarding educational, social and
14 vocational concerns which may occur as a consequence of hearing
15 impairment;

16 (6) The implementation of programs for hearing conservation and the
17 prevention of reduced auditory function; *and*

18 (7) Other preventive or corrective measures or procedures to aid, correct,
19 habilitate, rehabilitate, or provide relief to human hearing, or to attain
20 optimum audition and comfort.

21
22 The examination of the human ear by duly registered physicians in connection
23 with the physical examination of patients, and the evaluation and management of
24 speech and voice functions by speech pathologists, therapists and phoniatrists shall
25 not be considered acts constituting the practice of audiology.

26
27 (b) *Audiologist* refers to a natural person who is qualified to practice audiology,
28 after having satisfactorily completed the requirements provided under this
29 Act;

30
31 (c) *Audiometry* refers to the measurement of hearing, which shall encompass the
32 following components:

1 (1) The conduct of procedures and tests to define the type, degree and
2 consequences of hearing loss;

3 (2) The utilization of hearing tests to evaluate the sensitivity and
4 discrimination or acuity aspects of audition, including but not limited to
5 tone and speech audiometry based on behavioral responses,
6 electrophysiologic procedures, acoustic-immittance measures, loudness
7 recruitments, loudness adaptation, and tests of central auditory
8 dysfunction.

9
10 (d) *Audiometrician* refers to a natural person who is qualified to practice
11 audiometry after having satisfactorily completed the requirements provided
12 under this Act;

13
14 (e) *Certificate of Accreditation* refers to a document bearing the seal of the Board
15 and signed by all its members, issued to an applicant who has satisfactorily
16 completed the requirements for the limited practice of audiometry provided
17 under this Act. It shall serve as proof that the applicant is qualified to practice
18 audiometry in the Philippines;

19
20 (f) *Certificate of Registration* refers to a document bearing the seal of the Board
21 and signed by all its members and by the Chairperson of the Professional
22 Regulation Commission (PRC) issued to an applicant who has satisfactorily
23 completed the requirements for the practice of audiology provided under this
24 Act. It shall serve as proof that the applicant is qualified to practice audiology
25 in the Philippines.

26
27 (g) *Code of Professional Ethics* refers to a set of standards related to the conduct,
28 integrity and moral duties of audiologists and audiometricians, which shall be
29 formulated and promulgated by the Board, in coordination with the Philippine
30 Society of Audiology;

1 (h) *Hearing Aid Specialists (Hearing Instrument Specialists)* refers to natural
2 persons who measure hearing, conduct procedures and tests to define the
3 type, degree and consequences of hearing loss, utilize hearing tests to
4 evaluate the sensitivity and discrimination or acuity aspects of audition,
5 including but not limited to tone and speech audiometry based on behavioral
6 responses, electrophysiologic procedures, acoustic-immittance measures,
7 loudness recruitments, loudness adaptation, and tests of central auditory
8 dysfunction, and accordingly dispense appropriate hearing aids;

9
10 (i) *Professional License* refers to a renewable card, issued by the PRC, which
11 shall be valid for five (5) years, issued by the Board to an audiologist who
12 has met the qualifications under this Act, indicating that they are competent
13 and authorized to practice audiology or audiometry in the Philippines.

14
15 **ARTICLE II**
16 **QUALIFICATIONS OF AUDIOLOGISTS AND AUDIOMETRICIANS**

17
18 Sec. 4. *Minimum Qualifications of Audiologists.*— No person shall practice
19 audiology unless they have met the following requirements and such others to be
20 provided in the implementing rules and regulations of this Act:

21
22 (a) Has satisfactorily completed an academic program leading to at least a
23 bachelor's degree in audiology, or its equivalent or higher degree, inclusive of
24 at least 300 hours of supervised clinical experience, and at least six months of
25 full-time professional experience under the supervision of a certified
26 audiologist;

27
28 (b) Has passed the national board examination in audiology administered by
29 the Board; *and*

30
31 (c) Has taken their oath and been granted a certificate of registration and a
32 professional license, as defined in this Act.

1
2 *Provided,* that this section shall not apply to regularly licensed and duly
3 registered physicians who have received post-graduate training in the diagnosis and
4 treatment of hearing disorders and ear diseases: *Provided further,* that this section
5 shall not apply to certified Hearing Aid Specialists(Hearing Instrument
6 Specialists) and the evaluation and management of speech and voice functions and
7 dysfunctions by speech pathologists, therapists and phoniatriests; *Provided*
8 *further,* that public health workers involved in the implementation of Republic Act
9 No. 9709, otherwise known as the "*Universal Newborn Hearing Screening Act of*
10 *2009*"and other hearing conservation programs may conduct only specific hearing
11 acuity tests and hearing screening.
12

13 Sec. 5. *Disclosure of Authority to Practice.*– Audiologists shall be required to
14 indicate his or her professional license number and the date of expiry in the
15 documents he or she issues or signs in connection with the practice of his or her
16 profession. Audiologists shall also display his or her certificate of registration in a
17 conspicuous area of his or her clinic or office.
18

19 SEC. 6. *Minimum Qualifications of Audiometricians.*– A person who does not
20 possess a bachelor's degree in audiology or its equivalent and has not passed the
21 national board examination for audiology but has met the requirements below may
22 be instead be authorized to the limited practice of audiometry after complying with
23 the following requirements:
24

25 (a) Has satisfactorily completed the minimum accredited coursework and clinical
26 experience to be set by the Board in coordination with the Philippine Society
27 of Audiology and the CHED;
28

29 (b) Has received a certificate of accreditation from the Board;
30

31 *Provided,* that audiometricians may only perform their duties and functions under
32 the supervision of a qualified audiologist.

1
2 **ARTICLE III**
3 **THE BOARD OF AUDIOLOGY**
4

5 *Sec. 7. Creation of the Board of Audiology.*— There is hereby created a Board
6 of Audiology, hereafter referred to as “the Board”, composed of five (5) members
7 who shall be appointed by the President of the Philippines from a list of ten (10)
8 nominees prepared by the PRC, in coordination with the Philippine Society of
9 Audiology;
10

11 *Sec. 8. Powers and Functions of the Board.*— Subject to the review of the PRC,
12 the Board is hereby empowered to:
13

14 (a) Promulgate rules and regulations for the practice of audiology and
15 audiometry, in accordance with the provisions of this Act, and ensure their full
16 administration and enforcement thereof;
17

18 (b) Formulate guidelines for the licensure examinations of audiologists and
19 determine the contents thereof, subject to the provisions of this Act;
20

21 (c) Check and rate the examination papers of the licensure examinations for
22 audiologists, and submit the results thereof of the PRC;
23

24 (d) Promulgate rules and regulations for the registration of audiologists and
25 accreditation of audiometricians;
26

27 (e) Issue, suspend, revoke, and reissue certificates of registration and
28 professional licenses of qualified audiologists and renew their professional
29 licenses, and issue, suspend, revoke and reissue certificates of
30 accreditation of audiometricians;
31

1 (f) Issue special permits, impose additional requirements, and grant privileges, to
2 allow internationally renowned foreign audiologists and certified hearing
3 instrument specialists (hearing aid specialists) to practice their
4 profession in the country;

5
6 (g) Impose reasonable requirements and conditions, such as reasonable fees
7 or attendance in continuing education activities and programs, for the
8 renewal of the professional licenses of audiologists and to upgrade the
9 professional competence of audiometricians;

10
11 (h) Maintain a registry of audiologists and audiometricians;

12
13 (i) Adopt, promulgate and disseminate the Code of Professional Ethics, in
14 coordination with the Philippine Society of Audiology: *Provided*, that the code
15 shall state that audiologists and audiometrists must:

16 (1) Consider the auditory welfare of the public as his or her primary
17 responsibility;

18 (2) Enhance continuously their theoretical and practical proficiency

19 (3) Provide the best possible standards of professional care;

20 (4) Render his or her services with equal diligence to all, regardless of race,
21 creed, sexual orientation or gender identity of expression (SOGIE) or
22 economic status;

23 (5) Respect the confidential nature of information concerning those he or she
24 serves;

25 (6) Refer their client for further medical or other professional attention where
26 the need is indicated;

27
28 (j) To administer oaths in connection with the implementation of this Act.

29
30 (k) Conduct hearings and investigations to resolve complaints
31 against practitioners of audiology or audiometry for malpractice, unethical or
32 unprofessional conduct, moral turpitude, or other violations of this Act or its

1 implementing rules and regulations, and in connection therewith,
2 issue *subpoena ad testificandum* and *subpoena duces tecum*, and punish with
3 contempt persons delaying, obstructing, impeding or otherwise interfering
4 with the conduct of such proceedings;
5

6 (l) Conduct random ocular inspections of establishments and/or premises where
7 audiologic services are offered to ascertain that professional standards are
8 complied with;
9

10 (m) Issue an order enjoining or abating the illegal practice of audiology or
11 audiometry by unqualified persons;
12

13 (n) Impose fines and penalties, after due process in accordance with the
14 provisions of this Act or its implementing rules and regulations;
15

16 (o) Periodically evaluate the status of audiologic or audiometric education and/or
17 adopt measures to upgrade and maintain its high standards;
18

19 (p) Study the conditions affecting the practice of audiology or audiometry in the
20 country, and adopt measures for the maintenance of good ethics and high
21 professional standards of audiologic practice; and
22

23 (q) Submit annual reports to the PRC.
24

25 Sec. 9. *Minimum Qualifications of Board Members.*— No person shall be
26 appointed to the Board unless they meet the following requirements:
27

28 (a) A natural-born citizen of the Philippines;
29

30 (b) At least thirty-five (35) years of age at the time of their appointment;
31

1 (c) Of good moral character;

2
3 (d) Has not been found by the Board to be guilty of malpractice, unethical or
4 unprofessional conduct, moral turpitude, or other violations of this Act or its
5 implementing rules and regulations;

6
7 (e) Qualified and registered audiologist, as provided under this Act, in active
8 practice for at least ten (10) years prior to his appointment: *Provided*, that
9 five (5) years of practice prior to appointment shall suffice for the initial
10 composition of the Board;

11
12 (f) Members of the academe, whether full time, part time or lecturer of any
13 school, college or university where a regular course in audiology or
14 audiometry is taught, or has any pecuniary interest, directly or indirectly, in
15 such an institution, must forego his or her membership in said faculty or
16 relinquish his or her interests in said institution before taking his or her oath
17 as a member of the Board. Incumbent officers of the Philippine Society of
18 Audiology or any audiologic association may not concurrently be appointed to
19 or serve in the board.

20
21 Vacancies brought about by reasons other than expiration of terms shall be
22 filled for the unexpired portion of the term only.

23
24 Sec. 10. *Term of Office.*– The members of the Board shall hold office for a
25 non-renewable term of five (5) years, unless they are removed pursuant to the
26 provisions of this Act: *Provided*, that the first appointees to the board shall hold
27 office as follows: the Chairperson for five (5) years, and the four (4) other members
28 for terms of four (4), three (3), two (2) and one (1) year/s respectively, such that
29 the term of one member shall be expire every year. Thereafter, one member shall
30 be appointed for a full term, who shall automatically become the chairperson of the
31 Board in the last year of their term. Vacancies that are brought about by reasons

1 other than expiry of term shall be filled only until the unexpired portion of the term
2 only.

3
4 Sec. 11. *Compensation of Board Members.*— The members of the Board shall
5 receive compensation and allowances not lower than those provided under Section
6 10 of Republic Act No. 8981, otherwise known as the "*PRC Modernization Act of*
7 *2000*".

8
9 Sec. 12. *Quorum in Board Meetings.*— The presence of three (3) members
10 shall be constitute a quorum for the board to officially transact business.

11
12 Sec. 13. *Votes Required in Administrative Proceedings.*— A vote of three (3)
13 members must be obtained to render a decision on an administrative case
14 for malpractice, unethical or unprofessional conduct, moral turpitude, or other
15 violations of this Act affecting the professional fitness and integrity of an audiologist
16 or audiometrician.

17
18 Members of the Board shall be automatically disqualified from participating
19 and voting in cases where they are related to, or have pecuniary interest in any of
20 the parties: *Provided*, that the Board may temporarily designate a replacement in his
21 or her place, in coordination with affiliated professional organizations of audiologists,
22 with the approval of the PRC, and in accordance with the minimum qualifications of
23 board members as provided in this Act.

24
25 Sec. 14. *Removal or Suspension of Board Members.*— Any member of the
26 Board, after having been given the opportunity to defend himself or herself in a
27 proper administrative investigation conducted by the PRC, may be removed by the
28 President of the Philippines for malpractice, unethical or unprofessional conduct,
29 moral turpitude, or other violations of this Act or its implementing rules and
30 regulations. During the process of investigation, the President of the Philippines may
31 suspend such member under investigation for a period of not more than sixty (60)
32 days and appoint a temporary member in his place.

1
2 Sec. 15. *Supervision of the Board and the Custody of its Records.*– The Board
3 shall be under the administrative supervision of the PRC. All records, including
4 examination papers and results, minutes of deliberations, records of administrative
5 cases, and investigations of the Board shall be kept by the Commission.

6
7 Sec. 16. *Annual Report.* – The Board shall annually submit to the PRC a report
8 of its activities and proceedings during the year. The PRC may request other
9 records, information or data as often as may be necessary and practicable.

10
11 **ARTICLE IV**
12 **THE AUDIOLOGY BOARD EXAMINATIONS**

13
14 Sec. 17. *Licensure Examinations.*– All applicants for license to practice
15 audiology shall undergo a licensure examination. Such examinations shall be held by
16 the Board at least once every year in such places and during such dates as
17 determined by the PRC.

18
19 Sec. 18. *Scope of Examination.*– The Board shall prescribe the scope and
20 prepare the contents of the licensure examination, taking into account the most
21 recent developments in the field of audiology and audiometry;

22
23 Sec. 19. *Requirements for Examination of Applicants.*– Applicants must meet
24 the following requirements prior to taking the licensure examination:

25
26 (a) Is a Filipino citizen;

27
28 (b) Has satisfactorily completed an academic program leading to at least a
29 bachelor's degree in audiology or its equivalent or higher degree; and
30

1 (c) Has not been found by the Board to have committed malpractice, unethical or
2 unprofessional conduct, moral turpitude, or other violations of this Act or its
3 implementing rules and regulations.
4

5 Sec. 20. *Foreign Reciprocity.*— No foreigner shall be admitted to the audiology
6 board examinations unless he or she proves, in a manner approved by the Board
7 that the country of which by specific provisions of law, the country or State of which
8 he/she is a citizen, or in accordance with international treaties, agreements and/or
9 covenants to which their country or State is a signatory, admits Filipino citizens to
10 practice as licensed audiologists or audiometrists after an examination or registration
11 process on terms of strict and absolute equality with the citizens of said country or
12 state, including the unconditional recognition of certificates or professional licenses
13 issued by the Board /or the Commission and prerequisite degrees/diplomas issued
14 by institutions of learning duly recognized by the government of the Republic of the
15 Philippines.
16

17 *Provided*, that the Board, subject to the review of the PRC, may grant a
18 special permit to a foreign audiologists or hearing aid specialists (hearing instrument
19 specialists) to practice his or her profession in the country if he or she is
20 internationally recognized as an outstanding expert in the field of audiology or any of
21 its branches, and that his services will promote the advancement of the profession
22 the Philippines: *Provided further*, that the Board, subject to the review of the PRC,
23 may also impose additional requirements or grant certain privileges to foreigners
24 who wish to practice in the Philippines if the same privileges or requirements are
25 also granted or required from his or her country of citizenship.
26

27 Sec. 21. *Minimum Passing Level.*— An applicant for licensure must obtain a
28 general average of at least seventy-five percent (75%) in the examination, with no
29 rating in any subject under fifty percent (50%) in order to pass the examination.
30

31 Sec. 22. *Report of Examination Results.*— The Board shall report the ratings
32 received by each candidate within sixty (60) days of the last examination day, unless

1 extended by the Commission. The PRC shall publish the names of the successful
2 applicants in alphabetical order, without the ratings obtained, within sixty (60) days
3 from the receipt of the report of Board.
4

5 Sec. 23. *Additional Requirements for Re-examination.*— Any applicant who has
6 failed the licensure examination three (3) times shall be required to take a refresher
7 course on audiology in a duly accredited examination and show proof of completion
8 to the Board before retaking the examination.
9

10 **ARTICLE V**
11 **REGISTRATION AND LICENSURE OF AUDIOLOGISTS AND**
12 **ACCREDITATION OF AUDIOMETRICIANS**
13

14 Sec. 24. *Oath of Audiologists.*— All successful examinees of the licensure exam
15 for audiologists shall be required to take oath before the Board prior to the issuance
16 of the certificate of registration.
17

18 Sec. 25. *Disqualification from Oath-Taking.*— The following shall not be
19 allowed to take their oath as audiologists:
20

21 (a) Those who have not met the requirements to take the licensure
22 examinations;
23

24 (b) Those who have not passed the licensure examinations;
25

26 (c) Those who have been found, by the Board, of having committed malpractice,
27 unethical or unprofessional conduct, moral turpitude, or other violations of
28 this Act or its implementing rules and regulations;
29

30 (d) Those who have been convicted of final judgement, by any court, of any
31 crime involving moral turpitude; and
32

1 (e) Those who have been declared to be of unsound mind.

2
3 Sec. 26. *Registration Without Licensure Examination.*— A person who
4 possesses the pertinent qualifications listed below pursuant to the provisions of this
5 act may be registered without examination:
6

7 (a) Was a doctoral, masteral or baccalaureate degree holder in Audiology or
8 Certified Hearing Instrument Specialist (Hearing Aid Specialist) from a
9 recognized institution with at least three (3) years of audiology practice or
10 teaching Audiology courses in the Philippines; or
11

12 (b) Was a PRC duly-registered Physician in the Philippines with a Doctor of
13 Medicine degree and fully-certified Diplomate of the Philippine Board of
14 Otolaryngology Head and Neck Surgery with at least five (5) years clinical
15 experience in the practice of audiology in the Philippines; or
16

17 (c) Had passed at least eighteen (18) units of tertiary level (doctoral, masteral or
18 baccalaureate) courses in Audiology with at least seven (7) years of clinical
19 experience in audiology in the Philippines.
20

21 *Provided,* that the applicant files with the Board within three (3) years after its
22 creation, an application for registration, issuance of a Certificate of Registration and
23 Professional Identification Card by submitting credentials showing that the applicant
24 was a member in good standing of the Philippine Society of Audiology for three
25 years before the effectivity of this act.
26

27 Sec. 27. *Certificate of Accreditation.*— The Board may also grant certificates of
28 accreditation for the limited practice of audiometry to those who have met the
29 requirements under Article II, Section 6 of this Act. The certificate of accreditation
30 shall be considered as evidence that the registrant is qualified to the limited practice
31 audiometry in the Philippines.
32

1 Sec. 28. *Revocation of Certificates and Suspension of Licenses.*– The Board
2 may, after giving prior notice and due process to the persons affected, revoke a
3 certificate of registration or certificate of accreditation or suspend one’s professional
4 license, for malpractice, unethical or unprofessional conduct, moral turpitude, or
5 other violations of this Act or its implementing rules and regulations.

6
7 Sec. 29. *Appeals.*– The revocation of a certificate of registration or certificate
8 of accreditation, or the suspension of a professional license, shall become final
9 unless appealed to the PRC within fifteen (15) days from receipt of the decision.

10
11 Sec. 30. *Reinstatement or Replacement of Certificates and Licences.*– The
12 Board may, after the expiration of a maximum of five (5) years from the date of
13 revocation of a certificate, for reasons of equity and justice and when the cause for
14 revocation has disappeared or has been cured and corrected, upon proper
15 application therefor and the payment of the required fees, issue another copy of the
16 certificate of registration/professional license. A new certificate of
17 registration/professional license to replace the certificate that has been lost,
18 destroyed, or mutilated may be issued, subject to the rules of the Board

19
20 **ARTICLE VI**
21 **AUDIOLOGIC EDUCATION**
22

23 Sec. 31. *Technical Panel on Audiologic Education.*– To attain the objective of
24 upgrading Audiologic education in the Philippines, the Commission on Higher
25 Education shall, within sixty (60) days within the interpellation of this Act, convene
26 and organize a technical panel on audiologic education. For this purpose, senior
27 practitioners, specialists, academicians in the field of audiology and a representative
28 from the Philippine Society of Audiology shall be appointed and tapped to assist in
29 the following:
30

- 1 (a) Setting a minimum standard curriculum for the study of audiology to be
2 implemented in all schools offering audiology as an undergraduate course and
3 degree;
4
- 5 (b) Establish teaching standards, including the qualifications of members of the
6 faculty of schools and colleges of audiology;
7
- 8 (c) Monitoring the progress of the program on the study of audiology and
9 undertaking measure or the attainment of a high quality of audiologic
10 education in the country; and
11
- 12 (d) Evaluating periodically the performance of educational institutions offering
13 audiologic education for the purpose of granting accreditation and incentives
14 as well as for the imposition of sanctions when warranted.
15

16 **ARTICLE VII**
17 **FINAL PROVISIONS**
18

19 *Sec. 32. Prohibited Acts.*– The following acts shall be prohibited under this
20 Act:
21

- 22 (a) Any form of advertisement in media outlets giving information and impression
23 to the public that the particular audiologist s better than the others, is
24 collecting lower professional fees or selling cheaper hearing aids of devices;
25
- 26 (b) Practicing audiology without having passed the licensure exam, or without
27 authorization under a certificate of registration or a professional license;
28
- 29 (c) Practicing audiometry without having been authorized by the Board through
30 the issuance of a certificate of accreditation;
31

1 (d) Practicing audiology or audiometry when one's certificate or professional
2 license has been revoked or suspended;

3
4 (e) Falsification of a certificate of registration, certificate of accreditation, or
5 professional license, the possession of such falsified documents, or the use of
6 such falsified documents as authority to practice audiology or audiometry;

7
8 (f) Falsification of evidence or documents to obtain a certificate of registration;

9
10 (g) Non-compliance of higher educational institutions and faculty thereof with the
11 educational standards provided under this Act;

12
13 (h) Violations of the Code of Professional Ethics promulgated pursuant to this
14 Act; and

15
16 (i) Violation of any person, whether natural or juridical, of any of the provisions
17 of this Act or its rules and regulations.

18
19 Sec. 33. *Penalties.*—The commission of any of the prohibited acts under this
20 Act shall be punished with imprisonment of not less than one (1) year and not more
21 than eight (8) years, or a fine not less than ten thousand pesos (Php 10,000) or not
22 more than forty thousand pesos (Php 40,000), or both, at the discretion of the court.

23
24 If the offender is a corporation, partnership or any juridical person, the
25 penalty shall be imposed upon the responsible officers, as the case may be, who
26 participated in, or by their gross negligence, allowed the commission of the crime. If
27 the offender is a public official or employee is found guilty of acts penalized under of
28 this Act, he or she shall, in addition to the penalties prescribed herein, suffer
29 perpetual or temporary absolute disqualification from office, as the case may be.

30
31 Sec. 34. *Liability Under Other Laws.*—Administrative sanctions meted out by
32 the Board or the PRC pursuant to this Act shall not be a bar to prosecution in the

1 proper courts for unlawful acts of sexual harassment and other related offenses. A
2 prosecution under this Act shall be without prejudice to any liability for violation of
3 any provision of the Revised Penal Code, as amended, or special laws.

4
5 Sec. 35. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*— The Board shall be organized
6 within fifteen (15) days from the effectivity of this Act and shall take the lead
7 in formulating the implementing rules and regulations of this Act within thirty (30)
8 days from the effectivity of this Act, in coordination with the CHED, DOH, and the
9 PRC, in coordination with senior practitioners, specialists, academicians in the field of
10 audiology, and the Philippine Society of Audiology.

11
12 Sec. 36. *Appropriations.*— Such amounts as may be necessary for the initial
13 implementation shall be indicated as a separated line-item under the budget of the
14 PRC under the annual General Appropriations Act (GAA). Thereafter, such
15 appropriations needed for the continuing implementation of this Act shall be included
16 in the annual GAA: *Provided*, that the budget of the Board and its administration
17 shall at all times be separate from that of the PRC.

18
19 Sec. 37. *Separability Clause.*— If any provision or part of this Act is declared
20 unconstitutional, the remaining parts or provisions not affected shall remain in full
21 force and effect.

22
23 Sec. 38. *Repealing Clause.*— All decrees, laws, executive orders, proclamations
24 and administrative regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of
25 this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

26
27 Sec. 39. *Effectivity.*— This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
28 complete publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,