

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 1228

BY REPRESENTATIVE CREWS

HEARING AID DEALERS: Provides relative to the Louisiana Board of Hearing Aid Dealers

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 37:2441(B), 2442(2), 2444, 2444.1, 2444.2(A) and (B)(2),  
3 2445(3), 2447, and 2450(A), relative to the registration and licensing of hearing aid  
4 dealers; to provide for definitions; to provide for requirements for bill of sale  
5 contracts; to provide for testing periods for hearing aids; to provide for a limited  
6 cooling off period; to provide for application fees; to provide for the scope of  
7 examination; to provide for place of business mail notices; and to provide for related  
8 matters.

9 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

10 Section 1. R.S. 37:2441(B), 2442(2), 2444, 2444.1, 2444.2(A) and (B)(2), 2445(3),  
11 2447, and 2450(A) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

12 §2441. Registration and licensing required

13 \* \* \*

14 B. The provisions of this Section are enacted to:

15 (1) Protect the public.

16 (2) ~~Aid the Department of Revenue in collecting sales taxes on labor, on~~  
17 ~~retail prices of hearing aids, and on material used in the repair, service, and~~  
18 ~~maintenance of hearing aids.~~



1 to the seller in the same condition, ordinary wear and tear excluded, as when  
2 purchased. The written receipt or contract shall notify the consumer of the thirty-day  
3 right to cancel period in at least ten point type. The thirty-day right to cancel period  
4 shall commence from either the date the hearing aid is originally delivered to the  
5 consumer or the date the written receipt or contract is delivered to the consumer,  
6 whichever is later. The thirty-day period shall be interrupted for any period during  
7 which the hearing aid seller, dealer, or fitter has possession or control of the hearing  
8 aid after its original delivery.

9 (2) The consumer may exercise the right to return the purchase by presenting  
10 the hearing aid directly to the office in which it was sold or by returning the hearing  
11 aid to the location listed on the written receipt or written contract via trackable  
12 shipping methods within the time allotted with notice of his intent to return. The  
13 seller shall accept the return and issue a return receipt. Upon cancellation the  
14 consumer shall make available to the seller in substantially as good condition as  
15 when received, any goods delivered under the contract or sale. Any property traded  
16 in for credit, any payments made by the consumer under the contract or sale, and any  
17 negotiable instrument executed shall be returned by the seller to the consumer within  
18 ten business days following receipt by the seller of the cancellation notice and  
19 hearing aid. The cancellation notice shall be delivered in writing, and may be  
20 delivered by electronic mail, as verification of intent to return within thirty days.  
21 The consumer is still responsible for the cancellation fee.

22 B. Upon exercise of the thirty-day right to cancel a hearing aid purchase, the  
23 seller of the hearing aid is entitled to a cancellation fee not to exceed fifteen percent  
24 of all fees charged to the consumer, including testing, fitting, counseling, and the  
25 purchase price of the hearing aid before taxes. The exact amount of the cancellation  
26 fee shall be stated in the written receipt or contract provided to the consumer.

27 §2444.2. Three-day cooling off period

28 A. A consumer may cancel any transaction for the purchase of a hearing aid,  
29 without any penalty or obligation, within three business days of the date the hearing

1 aid is actually ordered by the consumer. The consumer shall notify the seller of his  
 2 intent to cancel by notifying the seller in person at the office where the transaction  
 3 for the purchase took place, or by electronic mail, or by mail postmarked within three  
 4 business days of the date the hearing aid is actually ordered by the consumer. Upon  
 5 ~~such~~ cancellation, any property traded in for credit, any payments made by the  
 6 consumer under the contract or sale, and any negotiable instrument executed  
 7 ~~thereupon~~ shall be returned by the seller to the consumer within ten business days  
 8 following receipt by the seller of the cancellation notice. Any security interest  
 9 arising out of the transaction shall be immediately canceled.

10 B.

11 \* \* \*

12 (2) The notice of cancellation ~~shall be~~ is effective if it is delivered to the  
 13 seller within the time frame described in Paragraph (1) of this Subsection and shall  
 14 ~~include a signed and dated copy of the subject contract, receipt, sales form, or other~~  
 15 ~~document evidencing all the terms of the transaction and the consumer's written~~  
 16 notice to cancel.

17 §2445. New application fee; qualifications

18 A new applicant for a first-time license shall pay a fee of two hundred dollars  
 19 and shall show to the satisfaction of the board that he:

20 \* \* \*

21 (3) Has an education equivalent to a four-year course in an accredited high  
 22 school and two years of college or two years of accredited higher education or has  
 23 continuously engaged in fitting and selling hearing aids ~~during the two years~~  
 24 ~~preceding the effective date of this Chapter~~ and is in good standing for a period of  
 25 no less than two years from the date of application.

26 \* \* \*

27 §2447. Scope of examination

28 The examination provided in R.S. 37:2446 shall consist of tests of knowledge  
 29 in the areas of hearing testing and other areas to determine capability of fitting and

1 selling hearing aids. The tests provided for in this Section shall not include questions  
2 requiring a formal college, medical, surgical, or audiological education. The  
3 examination shall be determined and proctored by the Louisiana Board for Hearing  
4 Aid Dealers or its assignees.

5 \* \* \*

6 §2450. Place of business; notice by mail

7 A. A person who holds a license obtained by examination, certificate of  
8 endorsement license, or temporary training permit shall notify the board in writing  
9 of the address of the place or places where he engages or intends to engage in the  
10 fitting or selling of hearing aids.

11 \* \* \*

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DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

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HB 1228 Engrossed                      2026 Regular Session                      Crews

**Abstract:** Provides relative to hearing aid dealers within this state.

Present law provides for hearing aid dealers to aid the Dept. of Revenue by collecting taxes on labor, retail prices of hearing aids, and materials used for repair, maintenance, and the service of hearing aids.

Proposed law removes the provision for hearing aid dealers aid to the Dept. of Revenue by collecting taxes.

Present law defines "hearing aid".

Proposed law adds to the definition of hearing aid by requiring the specifications set forth by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

Present law provides that any person who engages in the sale of hearing aids shall deliver to each person a bill of sale or contract that includes the signature of the seller and his contact information.

Proposed law requires the seller to include an email address.

Present law provides that there is a 30-day testing period for hearing aids.

Proposed law provides that consumers may exercise the right to return their purchase or cancel their order, which is subject to a cancellation fee.

Present law provides that consumers have within three business days of the date of ordering a hearing aid to cancel the transaction without any penalties or obligations.

Proposed law requires consumers to notify the seller of the intent to cancel in person where the transaction occurred, by mail, or by electronic mail.

Present law provides that the cancellation notice shall include a signed and dated copy of the subject contract, receipt, sales form, or other document evidencing all the terms of the transaction.

Proposed law deletes that requirement.

Present law requires new applicants for a first-time license to have an education equivalent to a four-year course in an accredited high school and two years of college or two years of accredited higher education or to have continuously engaged in fitting and selling hearing aids during the two years preceding the effective date of the present law.

Proposed law removes the option of engaging in the fitting and selling of hearing aids two years preceding the effective date of the present law and changes it to "in good standing for a period of no less than two years from the date of application".

Present law provides that the scope of examination shall be determined and proctored by the La. Board for Hearing Aid Dealers.

Proposed law includes the La. Board for Hearing Aid Dealers or its assignees.

Present law provides that a person who holds a certificate of endorsement license or temporary training permit shall notify the board in writing of the address of the place or places where he engages or intends to engage in the fitting or selling of hearing aids.

Proposed law adds a person who holds a license obtained by examination.

(Amends R.S. 37:2441(B), 2442(2), 2444, 2444.1, 2444.2(A) and (B)(2), 2445(3), 2447, and 2450(A))

#### Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Commerce to the original bill:

1. Make technical changes.