



Dora
Department of Regulatory Agencies

www.askdora.colorado.gov
1560 Broadway, Suite #1550, Denver, CO 80202
303.894.7855



Consumer protection
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Barbara J Kelley
Executive Director
303-894-7866
303-894-7885 fax

Virginia Morrison Love
Legislative Liaison
303-894-7873 wk
303-882-8717 cell

John Hickenlooper
Governor

Legislative Fact Sheet

HB 12-1205 Sunset Review of Audiologists and Hearing Aid Providers
Rep. Fields and Sen. Tochtrop

DORA SUPPORTS HB 12-1205

A result of the 2011 sunset review of the Audiology and Hearing Aid Provider Licensure Program, HB 1205 continues the regulation of audiologists and hearing aid providers in order to protect the public against unskilled and incompetent practitioners. The regulation of audiologists and hearing aid providers is designed to protect vulnerable persons, especially senior citizens, against unscrupulous sales practices.

Additionally, the HB 1205:

- Continues the requirement that hearing aid providers maintain a surety bond. This requirement was enacted in 1994, when regulation of hearing aid sales was reinstated because practitioners were found to be taking advantage of hearing impaired people by absconding with their money without providing the promised goods or services. Because of the bond requirement, this activity has been greatly reduced, although not eliminated. The sunset review found no evidence to require audiologists to maintain a surety bond.
- Lowers the regulatory barrier to becoming a hearing aid provider. HB 1205 authorizes the Director of DORA's Division of Registration to select an appropriate entry level examination, thereby eliminating the need for the Associate License type.