

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Ohio Board of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology (Board), pursuant to Chapter 119, of the Ohio Revised Code, hereby gives notice that it will conduct a public hearing for the purpose of considering the adoption, amendment, and recession of rules.

The public hearing will be conducted on **Wednesday, May 8, 2013, at 10:00 a.m. at the Vern Riffe Center for Government and the Arts**, located at 77 South High Street, 31st Floor; Columbus, Ohio, 43215. The hearing will take place in the **"Board Room"** and continue until all parties in attendance have had an opportunity to be heard.

Oral or written testimony may be presented by any person affected by the proposed action.

The following rule is being proposed as a new rule:

4753-2-01 - Telehealth Communication

Purpose of the new rule: Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) section 4753-2-01 establishes guidelines for speech-language pathology and audiology services delivered via telepractice. The purpose for this proposed rule is to ensure that individuals providing speech-language pathology and audiology services to consumers via telepractice are licensed and qualified. Additionally, the Board believes reasonable guidelines for telepractice are necessary to ensure consumers receive the same scope, nature, and quality of services that are provided during in-person sessions. The proposed rule addresses definitions, service delivery models, guidelines for the use of and limitations of telehealth related to the practice of speech-language pathology and audiology, and requirements of individuals providing such services via telepractice.

A copy of the proposed rules referenced above may be downloaded from the Register of Ohio at <u>www.registerohohio.state.oh.us</u>. In addition, individuals may request a complete text of the proposed rules by contacting the Board office at the address and/or telephone number noted above. Requests may also be submitted via e-mail at board@slpaud.ohio.gov.

All interested persons will be given the opportunity to be heard at the public hearing.

Those persons who wish to provide oral testimony at the hearing are encouraged to inform the Board prior to the hearing date and may be given preference in the order of testimony.

Written comments received by the Board before the close of the hearing record will be considered. Written comments in lieu of oral testimony may be submitted by:

Written comments brought to the public hearing; Written comments via e-mail to <u>board@slpaud.ohio.gov</u> Written comments mailed to the attention of:

Gregg B. Thornton, Executive Director Board of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology 77 South High Street, Suite 1659 Columbus, OH 43215-6108