

**MEMORANDUM**

TO: Greg Thornton, Ohio Board of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology

FROM: Danielle Dillard, Regulatory Policy Advocate

DATE: September 17, 2018

RE: **CSI Review – Five-Year Rule Review 2018 (OAC 4753-1-04, 4753-2-01, 4753-3-01, 4753-3-08, 4753-3-11, and 4753-8-04)**

On behalf of Lt. Governor Mary Taylor, and pursuant to the authority granted to the Common Sense Initiative (CSI) Office under Ohio Revised Code (ORC) section 107.54, the CSI Office has reviewed the abovementioned administrative rule package and associated Business Impact Analysis (BIA). This memo represents the CSI Office's comments to the Agency as provided for in ORC 107.54.

Analysis

This rule package consists of six no-change rules submitted by the Ohio Board of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology (Board) as part of the statutorily required five-year review. The rule package was submitted to the CSI Office on August 14, 2018 and the public comment period was held open through August 28, 2018. No comments were received during this time.

The rules cover a variety of topics. Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) 4753-1-04 specifies the duties and responsibilities for the custody and security of each personal information system maintained by the Board. OAC 4753-2-01 specifies the requirements for telehealth communications, and OAC 4753-3-01 details the application process for new licenses. OAC 4753-3-08 and 4753-3-11 also deal with licenses, specifically, the grounds by which disciplinary action may be taken against a license, and the requirements for placing a license in inactive status or restoring a license. OAC 4753-8-04 specifies the requirements for audiologists to furnish a sales receipt to each person supplied with a hearing aid.

As part of the early stakeholder outreach process, the Board distributed the proposed rules for public comment to all licensees and state associations in speech-language pathology and audiology. In addition, the Board posted the rules to their website and included it in their newsletter to solicit input from the public. The Board did not receive any feedback from licensees or other stakeholders regarding the proposed rules. No comments were received during the CSI public comment period.

The rules impact 8,700 licensed speech-language pathologists and audiologists in the state. An applicant must pay \$200 for a new license, and a licensee must pay \$120 if they need to restore a license. There are also costs associated with continuing education requirements, but this will vary based on the type of continuing education credit. Licensees engaged in telehealth may also incur costs associated with equipment needed to provide telehealth speech-language pathology or audiology services. Licensees are subject to disciplinary action by the Board in the event of noncompliance. The Board justifies any adverse impact by noting that the rules exist to ensure consumer protection. Individuals with communications disorders must receive early intervention and appropriate services, and the rules promote the prevention, identification, and treatment of consumers with communication impairments by qualified individuals.

Recommendation

For the reasons explained above, this office does not have any recommendations regarding this rule package.

Conclusion

Based on the above comments, the CSI Office concludes that the Ohio Board of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology should proceed with the formal filing of this rule package with the Joint Committee on Agency Rule Review.