



February 6, 2023

The Honorable Paul Holvey
Chair
House Committee on Business and Labor
900 Court St NE State Capitol
State Capitol, H-277
Salem, OR 97301-4042

RE: HB 3065

Dear Representative Holvey:

On behalf of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA), I write to support HB 3065, which allows out-of-state applicants seeking an occupational license in Oregon more time to meet Oregon standards if the applicant is already licensed in another state and is seeking to work in the Eastern Oregon Border Economic Development Region.

ASHA is the national professional, scientific, and credentialing association for 223,000 members and affiliates who are audiologists; speech-language pathologists; speech, language, and hearing scientists; audiology and speech-language pathology support personnel; and students. Audiologists specialize in preventing and assessing hearing and balance disorders as well as providing audiologic treatment, including hearing aids. Speech-language pathologists (SLPs) identify, assess, and treat speech, language, swallowing, and cognitive communication disorders. Over 2,300 ASHA members reside in Oregon.¹

ASHA supports HB 3065, which—although limited to the Eastern Oregon Border Economic Development Region—will help address the shortages that the professions of audiology and speech-language pathology are facing in a various work setting, including education and health care. This bill will further assist consumers in receiving much needed treatment to support their daily needs and enhance their quality of life. ASHA also supports the provisions of this bill that allows professional licensing boards to issue a provisional license, or other provisional authorization, to an out-of-state applicant who meets certain requirements.

Thank you for considering ASHA's support for HB 3065. If you or your staff have any questions, please contact Eileen Crowe, ASHA's director, state association relations, at ecrowe@asha.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert M. Augustine". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Robert M. Augustine, PhD, CCC-SLP
2023 ASHA President

¹ American Speech-Language-Hearing Association. (2022). *Oregon* [Quick Facts]. <https://www.asha.org/siteassets/uploadedfiles/advocacy/state-fliers/oregon-state-flyer.pdf>.