

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2009**

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**HOUSE BILL 1705\***  
**Committee Substitute Favorable 6/9/10**  
**Senate Health Care Committee Substitute Adopted 6/30/10**

Short Title: Consumer Guidelines for Hearing Aid Purchases.

(Public)

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Sponsors:

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Referred to:

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May 17, 2010

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT TO REQUIRE THE HEARING AID DEALERS AND FITTERS BOARD TO  
2 COORDINATE A TASK FORCE THAT WILL DEVELOP GUIDELINES FOR  
3 CONSUMERS TO USE WHEN PURCHASING A HEARING AID, AS  
4 RECOMMENDED BY THE NORTH CAROLINA STUDY COMMISSION ON AGING.  
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6 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

7 **SECTION 1.(a)** The Hearing Aid Dealers and Fitters Board shall coordinate a task  
8 force to develop recommended guidelines for consumers seeking information and assistance in  
9 the treatment of hearing loss and the purchase of a hearing aid. The task force shall include a  
10 licensed practicing fitter and seller of hearing aides, as recommended by the NC Hearing Aid  
11 Dealers and Fitters Board; a consumer of hearing aides, as recommended by the Division of  
12 Services for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, Department of Health and Human Services; a  
13 practicing audiologist, as recommended by the NC Board of Examiners for Speech and  
14 Language Pathologists and Audiologists; a physician who treats patients with hearing loss, as  
15 recommended by the NC Medical Board; a representative of the Division of Services for the  
16 Deaf and Hard of Hearing, Department of Health and Human Services; a representative of the  
17 Consumer Protection Division, Office of the Attorney General; and may include other  
18 interested stakeholders.

19 **SECTION 1.(b)** The Hearing Aid Dealers and Fitters Board shall report the  
20 findings and recommendations of the task force, along with recommendations on methods to  
21 disseminate hearing aid purchasing guidelines, to the North Carolina Study Commission on  
22 Aging and the Joint Legislative Health Care Oversight Committee on or before November 15,  
23 2010.

24 **SECTION 2.** This act is effective when it becomes law.

