

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2011**

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SENATE DRS55142-SHz-7A* (01/13)

Short Title: Extend Hearing Loss Task Force. (Public)

Sponsors: Senator Bingham.

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO EXTEND THE TASK FORCE DEVELOPING GUIDELINES FOR
3 CONSUMERS TO USE WHEN PURCHASING A HEARING AID, AS
4 RECOMMENDED BY THE NORTH CAROLINA STUDY COMMISSION ON AGING.

5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6 **SECTION 1.** Section 1 of S.L. 2010-121 reads as rewritten:

7 **"SECTION 1.(a)** The Hearing Aid Dealers and Fitters Board shall coordinate a task force
8 to develop recommended guidelines for consumers seeking information and assistance in the
9 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 aids, as recommended by the NC Hearing Aid
11 Dealers and Fitters Board; a consumer of hearing aids, 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 findings and
20 recommendations of the task force, along with recommendations on methods to disseminate
21 hearing aid purchasing guidelines, to the North Carolina Study Commission on Aging and the
22 Joint Legislative Health Care Oversight Committee on or before November 15, ~~2010~~2010, and
23 on or before November 15, 2011."

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

