

# HOUSE BILL NO. 5915

September 11, 2024, Introduced by Rep. MacDonell and referred to the Committee on Health Policy.

A bill to amend 1978 PA 368, entitled  
"Public health code,"  
by amending section 16801 (MCL 333.16801), as added by 2004 PA 97.

## **THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:**

- 1       Sec. 16801. (1) As used in this part:
- 2       (a) "Audiologist" means an individual **who is** licensed under
- 3       this article to engage in the practice of audiology.
- 4       (b) "Practice of audiology" means the nonmedical and
- 5       nonsurgical application of principles, methods, and procedures

1 related to disorders of hearing, including all of the following:

2 (i) Facilitating the conservation of auditory system function.

3 (ii) Developing and implementing hearing conservation programs.

4 (iii) Preventing, identifying, and assessing hearing disorders  
5 of the peripheral and central auditory system.

6 (iv) Selecting, fitting, **prescribing**, and dispensing ~~of~~  
7 amplification systems, including hearing aids and related devices,  
8 and providing training for their use.

9 (v) Providing auditory training, consulting, education, and  
10 speech reading to individuals with hearing disorders.

11 (vi) Administering and interpreting tests of vestibular  
12 function and tinnitus in compliance with section 16809 and in  
13 adherence to the mandate of subsection (2).

14 (vii) Routine cerumen removal from the cartilaginous portion of  
15 the external ear in otherwise healthy ears except that if the  
16 audiologist, while engaged in routine cerumen removal, discovers  
17 any trauma, including, but not limited to, continuous uncontrolled  
18 bleeding, lacerations, or other traumatic injuries, ~~he or she~~ **the**  
19 **audiologist** shall, as soon as practically possible, refer the  
20 patient to ~~a person~~ **an individual who is** licensed **to engage** in the  
21 practice of medicine or osteopathic medicine and surgery.

22 (viii) Speech and language screening limited to a pass-fail  
23 determination for the purpose of ~~identification of~~ **identifying**  
24 individuals with disorders of communication.

25 (2) Practice of audiology does not include the practice of  
26 medicine or osteopathic medicine and surgery or medical diagnosis  
27 or treatment.

28 (3) In addition to the definitions in this part, article 1  
29 contains general definitions and principles of construction

- 1 applicable to all articles in this code and part 161 contains
- 2 definitions applicable to this part.