

# State of South Dakota

EIGHTY-NINTH SESSION  
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 2014

175V0058

## SENATE APPROPRIATIONS

### ENGROSSED NO. **SB 122** - 02/24/2014

**This bill has been extensively amended (hoghoused) and may no longer be consistent with the original intention of the sponsor.**

Introduced by: Senators Sutton, Bradford, Brown, Frerichs, Jones (Tom), Kirkeby, Krebs, Lederman, Lucas, Maher, Peters, Rave, Tidemann, and Welke and Representatives Bartling, Feickert, Heinert, Hickey, Hoffman, Hunhoff (Bernie), Mickelson, Parsley, Peterson, Ring, and Tyler

1 FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to require health insurers to cover audiology services for  
2 children.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA:

4 Section 1. That chapter 58-17 be amended by adding thereto a NEW SECTION to read as  
5 follows:

6 Any qualified health plan issued on or after January 1, 2015, that offers coverage for  
7 professional audiology services shall include coverage for medically necessary physician  
8 services appropriate for the treatment of hearing impairment to a person under the age of  
9 nineteen. This shall include professional services rendered by an audiologist licensed pursuant  
10 to chapter 36-24.

11 The benefits provided shall be subject to the same dollar limits, deductibles, coinsurance and  
12 other limitations provided for other covered benefits in the policy.

13 Nothing in this section requires the payment by the health plan of hearing aids, devices, or



1 equipment to correct hearing impairment or loss.

2 Section 2. That chapter 58-18 be amended by adding thereto a NEW SECTION to read as  
3 follows:

4 Any qualified health plan issued on or after January 1, 2015, that offers coverage for  
5 professional audiology services shall include coverage for medically necessary physician  
6 services appropriate for the treatment of hearing impairment to a person under the age of  
7 nineteen. This shall include professional services rendered by an audiologist licensed pursuant  
8 to chapter 36-24.

9 The benefits provided shall be subject to the same dollar limits, deductibles, coinsurance and  
10 other limitations provided for other covered benefits in the policy.

11 Nothing in this section requires the payment by the health plan of hearing aids, devices, or  
12 equipment to correct hearing impairment or loss.

13 Section 3. That chapter 58-18B be amended by adding thereto a NEW SECTION to read as  
14 follows:

15 Any qualified health plan issued on or after January 1, 2015, that offers coverage for  
16 professional audiology services shall include coverage for medically necessary physician  
17 services appropriate for the treatment of hearing impairment to a person under the age of  
18 nineteen. This shall include professional services rendered by an audiologist licensed pursuant  
19 to chapter 36-24.

20 The benefits provided shall be subject to the same dollar limits, deductibles, coinsurance and  
21 other limitations provided for other covered benefits in the policy.

22 Nothing in this section requires the payment by the health plan of hearing aids, devices, or  
23 equipment to correct hearing impairment or loss.

24 Section 4. That chapter 58-41 be amended by adding thereto a NEW SECTION to read as

1 follows:

2 Any qualified health plan issued on or after January 1, 2015, that offers coverage for  
3 professional audiology services shall include coverage for medically necessary physician  
4 services appropriate for the treatment of hearing impairment to a person under the age of  
5 nineteen. This shall include professional services rendered by an audiologist licensed pursuant  
6 to chapter 36-24.

7 The benefits provided shall be subject to the same dollar limits, deductibles, coinsurance and  
8 other limitations provided for other covered benefits in the policy.

9 Nothing in this section requires the payment by the health plan of hearing aids, devices, or  
10 equipment to correct hearing impairment or loss.