AAO-HNS 2014 State Legislation

*This information is provided as a resource for our state trackers. Please do not distribute!

*Bills in Blue have been signed into law
*Bills in Green are still being considered
*Bills in Red are dead

Cerumen Management by Audiologists/Hearing Aid Dispensers
Tips: Management = Removal, which is in conflict with AAO-HNS policy requiring physician supervision at a minimum.

- North Carolina 2013 – HB 92 (pages 16-17)
- Virginia – HB 500

Scope-of-Practice Expansions
Tips: Non-physicians’ scope should not include diagnosis.

- Connecticut (naturopathy) – HB 5537
- Georgia (SLP/audiology resolution) – SR 1162
- Louisiana (optometry surgery) – HB 1065
- Minnesota (laser procedures) – HF 1529/SF 1316
- Minnesota – (chiropractors) - HF 1850/SF 1665
- Missouri – (hearing aid dispensers) SB 808
- Tennessee (med spas) – HB 1896/SB 2033
- Wisconsin (dentists) – AB 552/SB 413

Truth in Advertising (Listing of MD, DO, AuD, etc.)
Tips: The AAO-HNS generally supports, but be leery of some “board certification” language.

- Arizona – SB 1042
- Minnesota – HF 1529/1316
- New York – AB 7889/SB 5493
- Pennsylvania – HB 2061
- Tennessee – HB 1896/SB 2033
- Utah – SB 137
- Washington – HB 1586/SB 5492

Supervisory Requirements for SLP/Aud Assistants
Tips: Determine if physicians are being excluded from supervisory role.

- District of Columbia – B20-153
- Virginia – HB 764 (in special session)
- Washington – HB 2108

Licensing Boards/Physician Representation
Tips: Due to budget restrictions, states are eliminating positions from their oversight boards. Unfortunately, the physician is usually the first to be removed from non-physician licensing boards.

- California – SB 1466
- District of Columbia - B20-153
- Oklahoma – SB 1792
“Standards of Care” – Not Admissible in Medical Liability Lawsuits

*Tips: Federal proposal included in the SGR reform legislation. States are copying the effort in case federal protection fails.*

- Idaho – SB 1355
- Mississippi – HB 1282/SB 2552
- Tennessee – HB 1881/SB 1463
- Virginia – HB 78
- Washington – HB 2419/SB 6173

**Hearing Aid Mandates**

*Tips: The AAO-HNS typically remains neutral on such bills (public health v. cost/establishment of a price “ceiling”).*

- Indiana – HB 1337
- Ohio – SB 257
- Rhode Island – H 5419

**Sales of Hearing Aids, Including Internet**

*Tips: Latest proposals require in-person evaluations to limit online purchasing.*

- Illinois – SB 2811
- Indiana – HB 1139
- New York – A 655/S 3055
- Ohio – HB 109 (awaiting Governor’s signature)

**Surgical Practices**

*Tips: Practice management issues impacting ENT services.*

- California (Imaging) – SB 1215
- New Jersey (ASCs) – S 864

**Physician Profiling**

*Tips: Efforts to improve the standards for “physician profiling/rating” by insurers.*

- Georgia – SB 173
- New Jersey – A 2872

**Regulation of E-Cigarettes**

*Tips: Since states are tired of waiting on the FDA decision to regulate, many are moving forward with their own laws/regulations. The states below have a variety of bills relating to this issue. (e.g. sale to minors)*

- Delaware, District of Columbia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, New Mexico, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Utah, Washington

**Use of Epinephrine in Schools/Public Places**

*Tips: A recently passed federal law offers funding preference to states that provide students with improved access to epinephrine.*


**Regulation of Cosmetic Procedures**

- Minnesota – HF 1529/SB 1316
- Tennessee – HB 1896/SB 2033
- Wisconsin (dentists) – AB 552/SB 413

**Healthcare Taxes**

- Minnesota – HF 661
- Rhode Island – H 7428