



SYNOPSIS:

Proposed bill for state licensure of Speech-Language Pathologists in South Dakota

Protect South Dakotans

Licensure will protect South Dakota consumers from unscrupulous practice and incompetent individuals.

No Current State Licensure

There currently is no state licensure for practicing Speech-Language Pathologists in the state of South Dakota.

1 of 2 in the U.S

South Dakota is one of two states in the United States that does not license SLPs at the state level.

Self Supporting

State licensure board will be self-supporting and is projected to require minimal to no funds from the state after it is set up, and may have some funds to go into the state general fund at the end of the fiscal year.

Large Number of SLPs

There are currently an estimated 400 Speech-Language Pathologists practicing in South Dakota.

Regulate Practice and Supervision of SLPA's

State Licensure would regulate the practice of Speech-Language Pathology Assistants, and ensure proper supervision of SLPA practitioners.

Regulate Telepractice

State Licensure would regulate telepractice within the state (for internal and external telepractice).

Grandfather clause for bachelors Speech Therapists

Those practicing with a bachelor's degree, certified by the DOE since the year 2000, may continue to practice indefinitely with a limited license.