

House Resolution 1106

By: Representatives Schofield of the 63rd, Davis of the 87th, Scott of the 76th, Mitchell of the 88th, and Clark of the 108th

A RESOLUTION

1 Urging state-wide support for passage of the "Audiology Practice Modernization Act," to
2 modernize the scope of the practice of audiology; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, audiologists are essential healthcare professionals who help diagnose, treat, and
4 manage hearing loss and balance conditions related to vestibular disorders and dysfunction;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, in the United States approximately two of every 1,000 children are born with
7 a detectable level of hearing loss in one or both ears and one in eight people 12 years of age
8 or older have hearing loss in both ears; and

9 WHEREAS, more than 15 percent of Georgians have some form of hearing loss with higher
10 concentrated rates in rural areas; and

11 WHEREAS, otolaryngologists, audiologists, audiology assistants, hearing aid dispensers, and
12 hearing instrument specialists play a vital role in providing quick and safe hearing healthcare
13 services; and

14 WHEREAS, clarifying the scope of the practice of audiology will increase patient access to
15 hearing healthcare services, ensure patient safety, uphold high standards of care, improve
16 workforce efficiencies, and reduce healthcare costs; and

17 WHEREAS, the practice of audiology has evolved with improvements in healthcare,
18 research, education, technology, service delivery, product type, and product availability, so
19 the law on the practice of audiology needs to evolve as well.

20 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
21 the members of this body urge state-wide support for passage of the "Audiology Practice
22 Modernization Act," to modernize the scope of the practice of audiology.

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
24 and directed to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the
25 Governor, the Commissioner of Insurance, the commissioner of public health, the
26 commissioner of community health, and all members of the Georgia General Assembly.