

**NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A PROPOSED CHAPTER
TO THE GEORGIA BOARD OF HEARING AID DEALERS AND DISPENSERS,
RULE 276-14 RENEWAL AND REINSTATEMENT PROCESS, AND NOTICE OF
PUBLIC HEARING**

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND PARTIES:

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the authority set forth below, the Georgia Board of Hearing Aid Dealers and Dispensers (hereinafter "Board") proposes a new chapter for the Board, Chapter 276-14 *Renewal and Reinstatement Process* (hereinafter "proposed new chapter").

This notice, together with an exact copy of the proposed new chapter and a synopsis of the proposed new chapter, is being mailed to all persons who have requested, in writing, that they be placed on a mailing list. A copy of this notice, an exact copy of the proposed new chapter, and a synopsis of the proposed new chapter may be reviewed during normal business hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, except official State holidays, at the Office of the Secretary of State, Professional Licensing Boards Division, 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217-3858. These documents will also be available for review on the Georgia State Board of Hearing Aid Dealers and Dispensers office website at www.sos.georgia.gov/plb/hearingaid or by contacting the Board office at 478-207-2440.

A public hearing via conference call (see attached listing of attendees) is scheduled to begin at 8:30am on Tuesday, July 14, 2009, in the Office of the Secretary of State, Professional Licensing Boards Division, 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217 to provide the public an opportunity to comment upon and provide input into the proposed new chapter. At the public hearing, via conference call, anyone may present data, make a statement, comment or offer a viewpoint or argument whether orally or in writing. Lengthy statements or statements of a considerable technical or economic nature, as well as previously recorded messages, must be submitted for the official record. Oral statements should be concise and will be limited to five (5) minutes per person. Written comments are welcomed. Such written comments must be legible and signed, should contain contact information from the maker (address, telephone number and/or facsimile number, etc.) and be actually received in the office prior to the close of business (5:00 p.m. EDT) on July 7, 2009. Written comments should be addressed to Randall D. Vaughn, Division Director, Secretary of State, Professional Licensing Boards Division, Georgia Board of Hearing Aid Dealers and Dispensers, 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217-3858. Fax (866) 888-7127.

The Board will consider the proposed chapter for adoption at its conference call meeting scheduled to begin at 8:40am on Tuesday, July 14, 2009 at the Georgia Secretary of State Professional Licensing Boards Division, 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217-3858. According to the Department of Law, State of Georgia, the Board has the authority to adopt proposed Chapter 276-14 pursuant to authority contained in O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-4, 43-1-7, 43-1-19, 43-1-25, 43-20-6, 43-20-14, 43-20-15 and 43-20-16.

At its meeting June 2, 2009, the Board voted that the formulation and adoption of this rule chapter does not impose excessive regulatory cost on any licensee and any cost to

comply with the proposed rule chapter cannot be reduced by a less expensive alternative that fully accomplishes the objectives of O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-4, 43-1-7, 43-1-19, 43-1-25, 43-20-6, 43-20-14, 43-20-15 and 43-20-16.

Additionally, at its meeting June 2, 2009, the Board voted that it is not legal or feasible to meet the objectives of O.C.G.A. § 43-1-4, 43-1-7, 43-1-19, 43-1-25, 43-20-6, 43-20-14, 43-20-15 and 43-20-16 to adopt or implement differing actions for businesses as listed in O.C.G.A. § 50-13-4(3)(A), (B), (C), and (D). The formulation and adoption of these rules will impact every licensee in the same manner and each licensee is independently licensed in the field of Hearing Aid Dealers and Dispensers.

For further information, contact the Board office at (478) 207-2440.

This notice is given in compliance with Section 4(a)(1) of the Georgia Administrative Procedures Act (O.C.G.A. §50-13-4).

This 12th day of June, 2009

Randall D. Vaughn
Division Director
Professional Licensing Boards

Posted: June 12, 2009

**SYNOPSIS OF PROPOSED NEW CHAPTER TO THE GEORGIA BOARD OF
HEARING AID DEALERS AND DISPENSERS,
CHAPTER 276-14 RENEWAL AND REINSTATEMENT PROCESS**

PURPOSE: The purpose of the proposed new chapter is to define and outline the renewal and reinstatement process.

MAIN FEATURES: The main feature of the proposed new chapter is to clearly define the renewal, late renewal and reinstatement processes.

**PROPOSED NEW CHAPTER TO THE GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF
HEARING AID DEALERS AND DISPENSERS CHAPTER 276-14 RENEWAL
AND REINSTATEMENT PROCESS**

[Note: underlined text is proposed to be added; lined-through text is proposed to be deleted.]

**CHAPTER 276-14
RENEWAL AND REINSTATEMENT PROCESS**

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Rule 276-14-.02 Late Renewal

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Rule 276-14-.01 Renewal of License

Hearing Aid Dealers and Dispenser licenses shall expire on December 31st of every odd numbered year. **Licensed Dispensers** are required to obtain fourteen (14) continuing education hours in accordance with Board rule 276-10.

AUTHORITY: O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-4, 43-20-6 AND 43-20-14

Rule 276-14-.02 Late Renewal

Each license will expire and must be renewed by December 31st of every odd numbered year. Licensees are not to practice with an expired license. A license not renewed by December 31st of every odd numbered year will be considered for late renewal until March 31 of even year by the payment of the current renewal fee, plus an additional 50% of the renewal fee. Late renewal applications must be accompanied by proof that all CE requirements (Dispensers) have been met for the current biennium renewal period. Licensees are **not to practice after December 31st** of every odd numbered year until the license is renewed or reinstated.

AUTHORITY; O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-4, 43-1-7, 43-20-6, 43-20-14 and 43-20-15

Rule 276-14-.03 Reinstatement of License

Following the late renewal penalty period, all non-renewed licenses will be revoked by operation of law for non-renewal, and application for reinstatement must be submitted to seek re-licensure.

(a) Reinstatement shall be within the sole discretion of the Board.

(b) A person applying for reinstatement on or after April 1 of every even numbered year must submit the following:

1. For **both dealer and dispenser** applicants for reinstatement, a completed reinstatement application and the **non-refundable** reinstatement application fee; and,
2. For only **dispenser** applicants for reinstatement, verification of the retake and passage of both the written and practical examinations required for licensure within one year of date of application and verification of fourteen (14) hours of Board approved continuing education (Refer to Board Rule 276-10 for continuing education information).

O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-19, 43-20-6, 43-20-14 and 43-20-15

Rule 276-14-.04 Revocation

The Board shall have the authority to revoke a license of a licensee pursuant to O.C.G.A. 43-1-19 and O.C.G.A. 43-20-16. The voluntary surrender of a license or the failure to renew a license in accordance with Board rules shall have the same effect as a revocation of said license.

O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-19, 43-1-25, 43-20-6 and 43-20-16

CONFERENCE CALL – HEARING AID DEALERS AND DISPENSERS

JULY 14, 2009 8:30AM

Board members:

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