

Submitter: Jeremy DiCandilo
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB943

Dear Chair Patterson,

I write to you as a Registered Nurse certified in Oncology to support SB 943. I have spent my entire adult life taking care of cancer patients. Many of the therapies that we use to save their lives, unfortunately also have permanent and debilitating side effects. It is not hyperbole when I say that many times these side effects are worse than the cancer itself. Patients walk out of hospitals everyday completely cured only to be left with hearing loss and/or tinnitus (persistent ringing in the ears). These are especially debilitating and life-changing. Managing and care for patients that are afflicted with these is not something that oncologists and oncology specialists are accustomed to. The field of oncology regularly consults and relies on Audiologists to manage ear disorders caused by cancer treatment because Audiologists are THE experts in this subject matter irrespective of how the hearing damage occurred. I support SB 943 because it is reasonable, logical, and best practice to better align Audiologists skill sets and expertise to a broader scope of practice. Thank you for your consideration.