

Submitter: DOUG BAKER
On Behalf Of: SB 943
Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB943

I write in support of SB 943 that will allow Doctors of Audiology to order medical imaging and blood work for their patients to lower costs and improve the timeliness of patient care. I am the father of an adult daughter who wears cochlear implants. Her second implant was delayed by two years by an insurance company forcing us to go through multiple, unneeded hurdles. That delay ultimately cost my daughter most of the hearing in one ear.

This bill will allow faster diagnosis and treatment of patients by allowing Doctors of Audiology to order appropriate diagnostic testing that will speed the process so that patients are not required to see a series of other specialists to do the work that an AuD could do.

As a former university president and provost I saw the training in the field of audiology change over the course of my career to greatly expand the skills and expertise of these doctors. Given the changes in technology and therapeutics, that expansion of duties was required. In recognition of that skill and expertise, and to better serve patients, I ask you support the SB 943.

Sincerely,

Doug Baker
PNW AG Bell Chapter
Legislative Committee Chair