

## TENNESSEE COUNCIL FOR LICENSING HEARING INSTRUMENT SPECIALISTS

DATE: June 13, 2016

TIME: 3:00 P.M., CT

LOCATION: Health Related Boards  
Emergency Teleconference Meeting  
Poplar Room, Ground Floor  
665 Mainstream Dr  
Nashville, TN 37243

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Thomas Stewart, Hearing Instrument Specialist, Council Chair  
Randy Williams, Hearing Instrument Specialist  
Jerry Hall, Hearing Instrument Specialist

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: Frederick Rayne, M.D  
Lordy Dell Smith, Consumer Member

STAFF PRESENT: Teddy Wilkins, Unit Director  
Charles Custer, Board Administrator  
Hannah Lanford, Office of General Counsel  
Butch Jack, Financial Officer  
Jane Young, Office of General Counsel

Ms. Wilkins called the meeting to order at 3:04 p.m. Ms. Wilkins read the required teleconference script, confirming by roll call that a quorum was present, and that all participants could hear each other.

Ms. Wilkins advised the Council of the purpose of this emergency meeting, which is to vote for the withdrawal of rules previously approved by the Council for Licensing Hearing Instrument Specialists. Mr. Williams made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hall, to proceed with conducting this meeting electronically. A roll call vote was held and the motion carried.

Ms. Wilkins advised the Council that the amendment to Rule 1370-02-.06, which would decrease renewal fees for licensees, was set to become effective on July 27 2016. Due to a potential budget deficit faced by the Council, it has been recommended to withdraw this rule change at this time. As final approval of this rule before the Government Operations Committee is scheduled to take place on June 15, 2016, it was felt that action should be taken prior to the G.O.C. meeting. Ms. Wilkins asked the Council to consider that, as the physical presence of all Council members is not possible, due to the period of time required for action; and the participation by some or all of the Council members by electronic means is necessary. Mr. Stewart made a motion, seconded by Mr. Williams, that this matter meets all the requirements to conduct the meeting electronically. A roll call vote was held, and the motion carried.

Ms. Wilkins then turned the meeting over to Ms. Lanford, who reiterated what Ms. Wilkins had already advised. Further discussion was held regarding the rule change, and the withdrawal. Mr. Jack advised the Council of the reasons behind the forecast budget deficit that the Council would be facing, and why it was felt that the reduction of fees was not proper at this time. Mr. Jack advised the Council that the legal costs are projected to continue increasing, based upon the past several months.

Ms. Lanford advised the Council that, at this point, they have two (2) options:

- Stay the rule for 75 days, at which time, the remaining time before the rule becomes effective would restart.
- Withdraw the rule change completely.

Mr. Stewart made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hall, to withdraw the proposed rule change amendment to Rule 1370-02-.06. Mr. Williams inquired if this fee change can be revisited in the future, and Ms. Lanford advised that it could, and it would start from the beginning. A roll call vote was held, and the motion carried

### **Adjourn**

With no other Council business to conduct, Mr. Hall made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stewart, to adjourn. The motion carried, and the meeting was adjourned at 3:16 p.m.

*Ratified by the Council of Hearing Instrument Specialists on September 23, 2016*