

CHAPTER 116

SOCIAL SERVICES

SENATE BILL 93-85

BY SENATORS Gallagher, Bishop, Casey, Cassidy, Hopper, Johnson, Mares, Martinez, Norton, Peterson, Trujillo, and Wham;
also REPRESENTATIVES Pankey, Keller, and Lawrence.

AN ACT

CONCERNING THE REIMBURSEMENT OF VENDORS WHO PROVIDE AUDIO-VOCAL SERVICES UNDER THE "COLORADO MEDICAL ASSISTANCE ACT".

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:

SECTION 1. Part 4 of article 4 of title 26, Colorado Revised Statutes, 1989 Repl. Vol., as amended, is amended BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW SECTION to read:

26-4-414. Services of audiologists and speech pathologists without supervision. (1) WHEN MEDICAL OR DIAGNOSTIC SERVICES BY AN AUDIOLOGIST OR SPEECH PATHOLOGIST ARE PROVIDED PURSUANT TO AN ORDER BY A PHYSICIAN IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS ARTICLE, THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL AUTHORIZE REIMBURSEMENT FOR SAID SERVICES. FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, "AUDIOLOGIST" OR "SPEECH PATHOLOGIST" MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL WHO MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS SET FORTH IN THE FEDERAL "SOCIAL SECURITY ACT", AS AMENDED, OR ANY FEDERAL REGULATIONS ADOPTED PURSUANT THERETO, FOR PARTICIPATING PROVIDERS OF AUDIOLOGY OR SPEECH PATHOLOGY SERVICES.

(2) NOTHING IN THIS SECTION SHALL BE CONSTRUED AS EXPANDING THE PROVISION OF SERVICES AVAILABLE AS A PART OF THE MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE. FOR THE PURPOSES OF MAKING PAYMENTS TO AUDIOLOGISTS OR SPEECH PATHOLOGISTS PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION, THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL ESTABLISH RULES AND REGULATIONS IMPLEMENTING THIS SECTION. THE RULES AND REGULATIONS PROMULGATED PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (2) SHALL ENSURE THAT THE COSTS TO THE MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM WILL RESULT IN NO INCREASE IN THE TOTAL COST OF THE PROGRAM SOLELY AS A RESULT OF THE REIMBURSEMENT FOR SERVICES OF AN AUDIOLOGIST OR SPEECH

Capital letters indicate new material added to existing statutes; dashes through words indicate deletions from existing statutes and such material not part of act.

PATHOLOGIST PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION.

(3) PAYMENTS FOR SERVICES INCLUDED IN THIS SECTION SHALL BE MADE DIRECTLY TO THE AUDIOLOGIST OR SPEECH PATHOLOGIST, IF REQUESTED BY THE AUDIOLOGIST OR SPEECH PATHOLOGIST; EXCEPT THAT THIS SECTION SHALL NOT APPLY TO AUDIOLOGISTS OR SPEECH PATHOLOGISTS WHEN ACTING WITHIN THE SCOPE OF THEIR EMPLOYMENT AS SALARIED EMPLOYEES OF PUBLIC OR PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS OR PHYSICIANS.

SECTION 2. Effective date. This act shall take effect July 1, 1993.

SECTION 3. Safety clause. The general assembly hereby finds, determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.

Approved: April 19, 1993