



## **122nd MAINE LEGISLATURE**

## **FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2005**

**Legislative Document** 

No. 1277

H.P. 874

House of Representatives, March 15, 2005

An Act Regarding Speech-language Pathology Aides

(EMERGENCY)

Reference to the Committee on Business, Research and Economic Development suggested and ordered printed.

Mullicent M. Mac Jarland

MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND Clerk

Presented by Representative SHERMAN of Hodgdon. Cosponsored by Senator MILLS of Somerset and Representatives: ANNIS of Dover-Foxcroft, BIERMAN of Sorrento, CARR of Lincoln, CHURCHILL of Washburn, CURLEY of Scarborough, JACKSON of Fort Kent, JOY of Crystal, MOORE of Standish. **Emergency preamble. Whereas.** acts of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

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Whereas, this legislation authorizes the Department of
Professional and Financial Regulation, Board of Examiners on
Speech-language Pathology and Audiology to issue renewal
registrations to speech-language pathology aides who held valid
registrations on December 31, 2004, prior to the enactment of new
requirements beginning January 1, 2005; and

12 Whereas, if the Board of Examiners on Speech-language Pathology and Audiology is not granted additional authority, it 14 will not be feasible for many speech-language pathology aides to comply with the new requirements for registration and they will 16 therefore be denied an opportunity to continue providing a valuable service to the citizens of the State; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,

- Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:
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Sec. 1. Transition provisions. Notwithstanding the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 32, section 6004, subsection 2, the 28 Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, Board of Speech-language Pathology 30 Examiners on and Audiology is authorized to delay application of the requirements of Title 32, section 6004, subsection 2 to speech-language pathology aides who 32 held valid registrations on December 31, 2004. These registrants 34 will be accorded not less than 2 years but no more than 4 years to comply with these requirements. This transition is not 36 intended to prevent timely consideration by the Board of Examiners on Speech-language Pathology and Audiology of 3.8 applications for registration for individuals who have or will have complied with the requirements under Title 32, section 6004, subsection 2. 40

42 **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this Act takes effect when approved.

SUMMARY

48 This bill provides speech-language pathology aides additional time to meet the requirements for registration as 50 speech-language pathology assistants.