

**Senate File 2015 - Introduced**

SENATE FILE 2015

BY BROWN

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to cognitive screenings by audiologists and  
2 speech pathologists.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 154F.1, Code 2022, is amended by adding  
2 the following new subsections:

3 NEW SUBSECTION. 2A. *“Cognitive screening”* means the  
4 administration of a formal, evidence-based assessment to  
5 identify possible cognitive concerns.

6 NEW SUBSECTION. 2B. *“Cognitive screening instrument”* means  
7 a formal, evidence-based test, protocol, or other methodology  
8 by which a cognitive screening is administered.

9 Sec. 2. NEW SECTION. 154F.7 **Cognitive screening.**

10 1. An audiologist or speech pathologist may provide  
11 cognitive screening services as provided in this section.

12 2. a. An audiologist or speech pathologist shall not  
13 administer a cognitive screening instrument unless the  
14 audiologist or speech pathologist has completed sufficient  
15 training in administering the instrument to provide a  
16 sufficient standard of care.

17 b. An audiologist or speech pathologist shall not administer  
18 a cognitive screening instrument that requires certification  
19 unless the audiologist or speech pathologist obtains active  
20 certification prior to the first administration of the  
21 instrument and maintains an active certification of the  
22 instrument during all administrations.

23 3. Following the completion of a cognitive screening, an  
24 audiologist or speech pathologist shall refer the patient to a  
25 health care provider or specialist for further evaluation in  
26 accordance with the scoring protocol reflected on the cognitive  
27 screening instrument.

28 EXPLANATION

29 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with  
30 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

31 This bill relates to the practice of audiologists and  
32 speech pathologists. The bill allows audiologists and speech  
33 pathologists to administer cognitive screenings, defined  
34 in the bill, if the audiologist or speech pathologist has  
35 appropriate training and certification in the use of the

1 cognitive screening instrument, defined in the bill. Following  
2 the completion of a cognitive screening, the bill requires an  
3 audiologist or speech pathologist to refer the patient to a  
4 health care provider or specialist for further evaluation in  
5 accordance with the scoring protocol reflected on the cognitive  
6 screening instrument.