

**Senate File 559 - Introduced**

SENATE FILE 559

BY TRONE GARRIOTT, DONAHUE,  
PETERSEN, ZIMMER, and WAHLS

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to speech language pathologist assistants and  
2 the medical assistance program, and including effective date  
3 provisions.

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

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1 Section 1. Section 249A.15B, Code 2025, is amended to read as  
2 follows:

3 **249A.15B Speech pathologists and speech language pathologist**  
4 **assistants eligible for payment.**

5 1. The department shall adopt rules pursuant to chapter  
6 17A entitling speech pathologists who are licensed pursuant to  
7 chapter 154F, including those certified in independent practice,  
8 to payment for speech pathology services provided to recipients  
9 of medical assistance, subject to limitations and exclusions the  
10 department finds necessary on the basis of federal laws and  
11 regulations.

12 2. The department shall adopt rules pursuant to chapter  
13 17A that permit a speech language pathologist assistant who  
14 practices under a speech pathologist licensed pursuant to chapter  
15 154F to be reimbursed for speech language pathology assistant  
16 services provided to recipients under the medical assistance  
17 program, subject to limitations and exclusions the department  
18 finds necessary on the basis of federal laws and regulations.

19 Sec. 2. MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM — SPEECH LANGUAGE  
20 PATHOLOGIST ASSISTANTS. The department of health and human  
21 services shall submit any federal waiver or amendment to the  
22 centers for Medicare and Medicaid services of the United States  
23 department of health and human services to include speech  
24 language pathologist assistants who practice under a licensed  
25 speech pathologist to participate as a provider under the medical  
26 assistance program.

27 Sec. 3. CONTINGENT EFFECTIVE DATE. The following takes  
28 effect upon the department of health and human services'  
29 receipt of federal approval to allow speech language pathologist  
30 assistants to participate as a provider under the medical  
31 assistance program:

32 The section of this Act amending section 249A.15B.

33 EXPLANATION

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

1 This bill directs the department of health and human services  
2 (HHS) to adopt rules that permit a speech language pathologist  
3 assistant practicing under a licensed speech pathologist to be  
4 reimbursed for speech language pathologist assistant services  
5 provided to recipients of the medical assistance program, subject  
6 to limitations and exclusions HHS finds necessary. The bill  
7 also directs HHS to submit any necessary federal waiver or  
8 amendment for the medical assistance program to include a  
9 speech language pathologist assistant practicing under a licensed  
10 speech pathologist to participate as a provider under the  
11 medical assistance program. HHS shall include speech language  
12 pathologist assistants as providers under the medical assistance  
13 program upon HHS's receipt of federal approval.

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