NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF HEARING AID DEALERS AND DISPENSERS CHAPTER 276-14 RENEWAL AND REINSTATEMENT PROCESS, RULE 276-14-.01 RENEWAL OF LICENSE, AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND PARTIES:

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the authority set forth below, the Georgia State Board of Hearing Aid Dealers and Dispensers (hereinafter "Board") proposes an amendment to Rule Chapter 276-14 Renewal and Reinstatement Process, Rule 276-14-.01 Renewal of License (hereinafter "proposed rule amendment").

This notice, together with an exact copy of the proposed rule amendment and a synopsis of the proposed rule amendment, is being disseminated to all persons who have requested, in writing, that they be placed on a distribution list. A copy of this notice, an exact copy of the proposed rule amendment, and a synopsis of the proposed rule amendment may be reviewed during normal business hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, except official State holidays, at the Office of the Secretary of State, Professional Licensing Boards Division, 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217. These documents will also be available for review on the Board website at www.sos.state.ga.us/plb/hearingaid or by contacting the Board office at 478-207-2440.

A public hearing is scheduled to begin at **8:50 a.m. on Tuesday, September 27, 2016**, in the Office of the Secretary of State, Professional Licensing Boards Division, 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217 to provide the public an opportunity to comment upon and provide input into the proposed rule amendment.

At the public hearing anyone may present data, make a statement, comment or offer a viewpoint or argument whether orally or in writing. Lengthy statements or statements of a considerable technical or economic nature, as well as previously recorded messages, must be submitted for the official record. Oral statements should be concise and will be limited to five (5) minutes per person. Written comments are welcomed. Such written comments must be legible and signed, should contain contact information from the maker (address, telephone number and/or facsimile number, etc.) and be actually received in the office prior to the close of business (5:00 p.m. EDT) on **Tuesday, September 20, 2016.** Written comments should be addressed to Lisa W. Durden, Division Director, Professional Licensing Boards Division, Georgia State Board of Hearing Aid Dealers and Dispensers, and 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217; Fax (866) 888-7127.

The Board will consider the proposed rule amendment for adoption at its meeting scheduled to begin at **8:50 a.m. on Tuesday, September 27, 2016** at the Georgia Secretary of State, Professional Licensing Boards Division, 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217. According to the Department of Law, State of Georgia, the Board has the authority to adopt the proposed rule amendment to Board rule 276-14-.01 pursuant to authority contained in O.C.G.A. §§ 43-20-6 and 43-20-15.

At its meeting **June 14, 2016**, the Board voted that the formulation and adoption of this rule does not impose excessive regulatory cost on any licensee and any cost to comply with the proposed

rule cannot be reduced by a less expensive alternative that fully accomplishes the objectives of O.C.G.A. §§ 43-20-6 and 43-20-15.

Additionally, at its meeting **June 14, 2016**, the Board voted that it is not legal or feasible to meet the objectives of O.C.G.A. §§ 43-20-6 and 43-20-15 to adopt or implement differing actions for businesses as listed in O.C.G.A. § 50-13-4(3)(A), (B), (C), and (D). The formulation and adoption of these rules will impact every licensee in the same manner and each licensee is independently licensed in the field of hearing aid dispensing and dealers.

For further information, contact the Board office at (478) 207-2440.

This notice is given in compliance with Section 4(a)(1) of the Georgia Administrative Procedures Act (O.C.G.A. §50-13-4).

This 24 day of August, 2016

Lisa W. Durden

Lisa W. Durden
Director
Professional Licensing Boards

Posted: 24 AUG 2016

SYNOPSIS OF PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF HEARING AID DEALERS AND DISPENSERS CHAPTER 276-14 RENEWAL AND REINSTATEMENT PROCESS, RULE 276-14-.01 RENEWAL OF LICENSE

Purpose: The purpose of this rule amendment is to update the rule pursuant to reflect changes in the law.

Main Features: The rule amendment changes the current minimum number of continuing education hours required for the renewal of a dispensers license from fourteen (14) to twenty (20) pursuant to changes in the law.

DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE EXISTING RULE AND THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF HEARING AID DEALERS AND DISPENSERS CHAPTER 276-14 RENEWAL AND REINSTATEMENT PROCESS, RULE 276-14-.01 RENEWAL OF LICENSE

[Note: underlined text is proposed to be added; lined-through text is proposed to be deleted]

Rule 276-14-.01 Renewal of License

Hearing Aid Dealers and Dispenser licenses shall expire on December 31st of every odd numbered year. **Licensed Dispensers** are required to obtain ~~fourteen (14)~~ twenty (20) continuing education hours in accordance with Board Rule 276-10.

Authority: O.C.G.A. §§ 43-20-6 and 43-20-15

Rule 276-14-.01 Renewal of License

Hearing Aid Dealers and Dispenser licenses shall expire on December 31st of every odd numbered year. **Licensed Dispensers** are required to obtain twenty (20) continuing education hours in accordance with Board Rule 276-10.

Authority: O.C.G.A. §§ 43-20-6 and 43-20-15