



# Overview of Assembly Bill 155

of the 81st (2021) Session of the Nevada Legislature

Assemblywoman Michelle Gorelow, Sponsor

**Jennifer Pierce, Executive Director**

**Nevada Speech Language-Pathology, Audiology and Hearing Aid Dispensing Board**

February 2021

# AB 155 OVERVIEW

WHAT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>AB 155 revises the current fee caps in NRS 637B.175, which</b> prescribes the maximum fees the Board may charge for licensing and other services.</li><li>• Our Board is <b>funded solely by licensing fees and receives no state funds.</b></li></ul>
WHY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Current Board reserves total <b>less than one year's operating costs.</b></li><li>• Actual fees charged <b>currently are at the maximum fee caps</b> (except for one).</li><li>• Continued <b>licensee growth</b> increases staff licensing and oversight work.</li><li>• Our responsibility to <b>protect the public</b> requires timely investigation of complaints, with legal and investigative costs often irrecoverable.</li><li>• Investments in technology &amp; efficiency result in <b>convenience for licensees and mitigate increases in overhead and staff costs.</b></li></ul>
COST- SAVING EFFORTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Part Time/Shared Staff</li><li>• Shared Office Space</li><li>• Online Applications &amp; Renewals</li><li>• Self-Managed Website</li><li>• Cloud-Based Operations</li><li>• Paperless Practices</li><li>• Licensee Education</li></ul>
IMPACT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A \$25 increase in actual new license/renewal fees would provide the Board with <b>approximately \$32,000 in additional revenue.</b></li><li>• Current new application and renewal fees rank 11<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> respectively in a comparison with 17 other NV Licensing Boards</li><li>• The Boards' practitioners' average median salary is 6<sup>th</sup> highest in a comparison with 17 other NV licensing boards.</li></ul>
TIMELINE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The Board has discussed <b>pursuing a modest fee increase in the 2021-2022 interim</b> (if approved, would not go into effect until mid-2022 at soonest).</li><li>• A careful consideration of the appropriate increase would occur as part of the Administrative Rulemaking process, which would include at least both a <b>public workshop and a public hearing with ample opportunity for stakeholder feedback</b> and public comment.</li></ul>



# Proposed Increase to Fee Caps

The Board originally considered greater increases to the fee caps; however, in response to concern for the impact of the pandemic on licensees, reduced the requested increases substantially.

Fee	Current FEE CAP	Proposed FEE CAP*	Current ACTUAL FEE
Application Fee	\$150	\$200	<b>\$150</b>
License Fee	\$100	\$150	<b>\$100</b>
Fee for the renewal of a license	\$100	\$150	<b>\$100</b>
Reinstatement fee	\$100	\$200	<b>\$100</b>
Examination fee	\$300	No Increase	<b>\$200</b>
Fee for converting to a different type of license	\$50	No Increase	<b>\$50</b>
Fee for each additional license or endorsement	\$50	No Increase	<b>\$50</b>
Fee for obtaining license information	\$50	\$100	<b>\$50</b>

Actual fees currently charged are **at the maximum fee caps**, except for one.

