

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
First Regular Session )

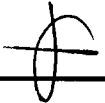


Senate  
Office of the Secretary

'16 NOV 15 A9:30

SENATE

S.B. No. 1238

RECEIVED BY: 

---

Introduced by Senator **SONNY ANGARA**

---

**AN ACT**  
**REGULATING THE PRACTICE OF SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY IN THE**  
**PHILIPPINES, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

**Explanatory Note**

Section 15, Article II of the 1987 Philippine Constitution states that the State "shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them."

To accomplish this policy, the State endeavors to build and maintain institutions that educate medical and allied health professionals, subject them to high professional standards, while enabling and incentivizing their continuous professional development. Such is true for various medical and allied health professionals in the country today—except for a select few such as Speech Language Pathology.

Speech Language Pathology is a branch of rehabilitation involving the study of human communication, its normal development and its disorders. Studies have shown that around 1 percent of the estimated 2016 global population or 75 million individuals suffer from stuttering—a physical impairment often linked to neurological and genetic causes, commonly present during the early development years of children. In addition, Speech Language Pathologists frequently treat individuals who have suffered from stroke, especially when their speech has been impaired.

This field of allied health remains beyond the reach from most Filipinos. According to the Philippine Association of Speech Pathologists (PASP), there are only 400 speech pathologists registered in the country today. To date, there are only four (4) universities that offer Bachelor of Science in Speech Language Pathology (BS SLP) nationwide producing around 100 SLP graduates annually. Initiatives must be done to increase proficient graduates even before the shortage of these practitioners arises, more so that the country moves to open up to and integrate itself with the region and developed countries.

Worse, there are ill-minded individuals creating pseudo academies with truncated programs that do not actually produce competent Speech Language Pathologists, and, in the process, taint the reputation of bona fide Filipino practitioners all over the world, recklessly undermining patients' treatment. Some report some higher education institutions offering masteral programs in Speech Language Pathology, without following any set curriculum.

Numerous issues already plague this practice. The lack of regulation only hobbles the further development of this burgeoning yet vital profession. In consideration of these points, there is no other recourse than to seek the passage of a measure that would establish mechanisms, safeguards, and procedures that culminate in an enabling environment for the development of Speech Language Pathology profession in the Philippines.

The foregoing measure acknowledges the importance of Speech Language Pathology and its practitioners to maintaining the physical well-being and overall health of citizens. While this proposed legislation aims to regulate the practice of Speech Language Pathology in the Philippines, its main objectives are to advance the allied health profession and guarantee that while Speech Language Pathologists are subjected to high standards, their patients receive world-class treatment and services.

In view of the foregoing, immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.



**SONNY ANGARA**

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
First Regular Session )



'16 NOV 15 A9:30

SENATE  
S.B. No. 1238

RECEIVED BY:

---

Introduced by Senator SONNY ANGARA

---

1  
2  
3  
  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16

**AN ACT**  
**REGULATING THE PRACTICE OF SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY IN THE**  
**PHILIPPINES, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines  
in Congress assembled:*

**ARTICLE I**  
**TITLE AND DEFINITION OF TERMS**

**SECTION 1. Short Title.** – This Act shall be known as the **“Speech Language Pathology Act.”**

**SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy.** – The State recognizes the important role of speech language pathologists in nation building and promotes the sustained development of a reservoir of speech language pathologists whose competence have been determined by honest and credible licensure examinations whose standards of professional practice and service are world-class and internationally-recognized, globally competitive through preventive regulatory measures, programs, and activities that foster their continuing, professional growth.

1 **SEC. 3. Definition of Terms.** – For purposes of this Act, the following terms shall be  
2 defined as follows:

- 3 a. *Speech Language Pathology* refers to an allied health profession devoted  
4 to the evaluation, diagnosis, management and prevention of human  
5 communication disorder.
- 6 b. *Speech Language Pathologist* refers to a person who is registered and  
7 licensed to practice speech language pathology and who holds a valid  
8 certificate of registration/professional license and professional  
9 identification card issued by the Professional Regulation Commission  
10 under the provisions of this Act.
- 11 c. *Communication and/or Swallowing Disorders* refer to impairment in the  
12 ability to (1) receive and/or process symbol systems; (2) represent  
13 concepts in systems; (3) transmit and use symbol systems. The  
14 impairment may be observed in the disorders of hearing, language and/or  
15 speech processes.
- 16 d. *Evaluation* refers to the global appraisal of the significance and  
17 implications of a diagnostic assessment that shall include formal and  
18 informal assessment.
- 19 e. *Diagnosis* refers to the act of identifying a human communication or  
20 swallowing abnormality or disorder by analyzing the symptoms presented.  
21 It may also include a study of the origin and development of the  
22 symptoms.
- 23 f. *Language* refers to any socially and culturally accepted, structured,  
24 symbolic system for interpersonal communication composed of sounds,  
25 letters, manual signs or other symbols arranged in ordered sequences or  
26 strings that express thoughts, intentions, experiences and feelings  
27 comprised of orthographic, phonological, syntactical, semantic and  
28 pragmatic components.
- 29 g. *Speech* refers to the medium of oral communication that employs a  
30 linguistic code (language); through this medium, one can express thoughts  
31 and feelings and understand those of others who employ the same code.

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
30  
31  
32  
33  
34

**ARTICLE II**

**THE PROFESSIONAL REGULATORY BOARD OF SPEECH PATHOLOGY**

**SEC. 4. *Creation and Composition of the Board.*** – Within ninety (90) days after the effectivity of this Act, there shall be created the Professional Regulatory Board of Speech Language Pathology, hereinafter referred to as the Board under the administrative control and supervision of the Professional Regulation Commission (PRC), hereinafter referred to as the Commission, to be composed of a Chairperson and two (2) members who shall be appointed by the President of the Philippines from the three (3) candidates for each vacant position chosen from the five (5) nominees of the integrated and accredited national organization of speech language pathologists.

**SEC. 5. *Qualifications of the Members of the Board.*** – To be the Chairperson or a member of the Board under this Act, the individual must have the following qualifications:

- a. A natural born citizen of the Philippines and an actual resident thereof for at least five (5) years before his/her appointment;
- b. A duly registered and licensed speech language pathologist holding a valid certificate of registration/professional license and professional identification card, in active clinical practice for the past five (5) years and a member in good standing of the accredited integrated national organization of speech language pathologists prior to his/her appointment, except if appointed the first Chairperson/member;
- c. Of good moral character and must not have been convicted of any offense involving moral turpitude; and
- d. Must not have pecuniary interest, directly or indirectly, in any school, academy, college, university or institution conferring an academic degree necessary for administration to the practice of speech language pathology or where review classes in preparation for the licensure examination are being offered or conducted, nor shall he/she be a member of the faculty or of the administration thereof at the time of his/her appointment to the Board.

1 **SEC. 6. Powers and Functions of the Board.** – The Board shall have the following  
2 powers and functions:

- 3 a. Promulgate, administer and enforce rules and regulations necessary for  
4 carrying out the provisions of this Act;
- 5 b. Administer oaths in connection with the administration of this Act;
- 6 c. Supervise and regulate the registration, licensure and practice of speech  
7 language pathology in the Philippines;
- 8 d. Adopt an official seal of the Board;
- 9 e. Maintain a roster of speech language pathologists indicating therein the  
10 basic information about the registered professionals;
- 11 f. Study the conditions affecting the practice of speech language pathology  
12 in the Philippines and adopt measures for the enhancement of the  
13 professional ethical and technical standards therein;
- 14 g. Ensure, in coordination with the Commission on Higher Education  
15 (CHED), that all educational institutions offering speech language  
16 pathology education comply with the policies, standards and requirements  
17 of the course prescribed by the CHED in the areas of curriculum, faculty,  
18 library and facilities;
- 19 h. Prescribe and/or adopt a Code of Ethics and Code of Technical Standards  
20 for the practice of speech language pathology;
- 21 i. Prescribe standards for the practice of speech language pathology; issue,  
22 reinstate, suspend, revoke certificate of registration and/or professional  
23 license or cancel special permits for the practice of speech language  
24 pathology;
- 25 j. Prescribe guidelines and criteria in the Continuing Professional Education  
26 (CPE) program for speech language pathologists;
- 27 k. Be in consultation with the duly accredited organization of speech  
28 language pathologist and the duly recognized association of schools  
29 conferring a Bachelor's or other entry level degree in Speech Language  
30 Pathology, prescribe the area of competence to be included in the  
31 computerized licensure examination and their relative weights, determine  
32 by the syllabi of the subjects, construct the test questions in licensure  
33 examination, score and rate examination papers;

- 1 l. Hear or investigate any violations of this Act, its implementing rules and  
2 regulations and the Code of Ethics for speech language pathologists, and  
3 for this purpose, to issue *subpoena duces tecum* to secure the  
4 appearance of the witnesses and the production of documents in  
5 connection therewith: *Provided*, That the decision of the Board shall,  
6 unless appealed to the Commission, become final and executory after  
7 fifteen (15) days from receipt of the judgment or decision;
- 8 m. Adopt a program for the full computerization of the licensure examination;
- 9 n. Grant registration without examination subject to the approval by the  
10 Commission;
- 11 o. Issue special permits to persons admitted to the practice of speech  
12 language pathology for a specific duration of time, and certificates of  
13 recognition for advanced studies, researches and accomplishments that  
14 contribute to the enrichment of the profession; and,
- 15 p. Perform such other powers and functions as it may deem necessary to  
16 carry out the objectives of this Act.

17  
18 The policies, resolutions, rules and regulations issued or promulgated by the Board  
19 shall be subject to the review and approval of the Commission.

20  
21 **SEC. 7. Term of Office.** – The Chairperson and members of the Board shall hold  
22 office for three (3) years after appointment or until their successors shall have been  
23 appointed and duly qualified: *Provided*, That members of the first Board to be  
24 appointed after the approval of this Act shall hold office for the following terms:  
25 Chairperson for three (3) years, one member for two (2) years, and the other  
26 member for one (1) year: *Provided*, further, That the Chairperson or any member  
27 may be re-appointed for another term of three (3) years but in no case shall he/she  
28 serve continuously for more than six (6) years. Vacancy in the Board shall be filled  
29 for the unexpired term only. Each member of the Board shall automatically be  
30 registered as speech language pathologists and issued certificate of  
31 registration/professional license and professional identification card and shall take  
32 the proper oath of office prior to assumption.

1 **SEC. 8. Compensation of the Members of the Professional Regulatory Boards.**

2 – The chairperson and members of the Board shall receive compensation and  
3 allowances comparable to that being received by the Chairpersons and members of  
4 existing regulatory boards under the Commission as provided for in the annual  
5 General Appropriations Act.

6  
7 **SEC. 9. Sanctions of Board Members.** – Any member of the Board may be  
8 suspended or removed from office for gross neglect of duty, incompetence,  
9 malpractice, unprofessionalism, immorality, unethical or dishonorable conduct, final  
10 judgment of crimes involving moral turpitude, and manipulation or rigging of the  
11 licensure examination results, disclosure of secret and confidential information in the  
12 examination questions prior to the conduct of the said examination or tampering of  
13 grades.

14  
15 The administrative proceedings shall be heard by the Commission, whose  
16 recommendation shall be submitted to the Office of the President. During the  
17 investigation, the respondent shall be placed under preventive suspension by the  
18 Commission and another designated to fill the temporary vacancy in the Board.

19  
20 **SEC. 10. Supervision of the Board, Custodian of its Records, Secretariat and**  
21 **Support Services.** – The Board shall be under the administrative supervision of the  
22 Commission. All records of the Board, including applications for examination, and  
23 administrative and other investigative cases conducted by the Board shall be under  
24 the custody of the Commission.

25  
26 The Commission shall designate the secretary of the Board and shall provide the  
27 secretariat and other support services to implement the provision of this Act.

28  
29 **SEC. 11. Reportorial Requirements.** – The Board shall submit an annual report to  
30 the Commission after the close of each calendar year, giving a detailed account of  
31 the proceedings of the Board during the year and recommending measures to be  
32 adopted, with the end in view of upgrading and improving the conditions affecting the  
33 practice of speech language pathology in the Philippines.



1 **ARTICLE III**

2 **LICENSURE EXAMINATION AND REGISTRATION**

3  
4 **SEC. 12. *Licensure Examination.*** – All applicants for registration for the practice of  
5 speech language pathology shall be required to undergo a licensure examination to  
6 be given by the Board in such places and dates as the Commission may designate  
7 subject to compliance with the requirements prescribed by the Commission.  
8

9 **SEC. 13. *Qualification for Examination.*** – In order to be allowed to take part in the  
10 licensure examination, an applicant must, at the time of filing of higher application,  
11 establish to the satisfaction of the Board that he/she has met the following  
12 qualifications:

- 13 a. A Filipino citizen or a foreign citizen whose state/country has reciprocity  
14 agreement with the Philippines in the practice of speech language  
15 pathology;  
16 b. Good moral character;  
17 c. Has not been convicted of a crime involving moral turpitude;  
18 d. A graduate of a Bachelor's degree in speech language pathology from a  
19 duly recognized school, college or university in the Philippines or abroad  
20 and recognized/accredited by the Commission on Higher Education  
21 (CHED).  
22

23 **SEC. 14. *Scope of Examination.*** - The subjects in the licensure examination for  
24 Speech Language Pathologists shall cover the following:

- 25 a. Anatomy and Physiology of the Speech and Hearing Mechanism  
26 b. Neurological Bases of Speech and Hearing Disorders  
27 c. Articulation and Phonological Disorders  
28 d. Hearing Impairment and Aural Habilitation  
29 e. Language and Cognitive Communication disorders  
30 f. Fluency disorders  
31 g. Voice disorders  
32 h. Cleft Lip and Palate and Craniofacial conditions  
33 i. Dysphagia

- 1 j. Medical and neurological disorders that may cause communication and
- 2 swallowing disorders
- 3 k. Normal development and function of speech, language, hearing and/or
- 4 swallowing conditions
- 5 l. Principles of assessment and intervention for speech, language, hearing
- 6 and/or swallowing conditions
- 7 m. Research, Professional Ethics and Community Development
- 8

9 The Board may recluster, rearrange, modify, add or exclude any subject as the need  
10 arises so as to conform to technological changes.

11  
12 **SEC. 15. *Registration Without Examination as Speech Language Pathologist.*** –

13 A person who possesses the pertinent qualifications required for admission in the  
14 examination for registration as a speech language pathologist pursuant to the  
15 provisions of this Act may be registered without examination: *Provided*, That the  
16 applicant files with the Board, within six (6) months after the effectivity of the  
17 Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR), an application for registration and  
18 issuance of a certificate of registration/professional license and professional  
19 identification card by submitting credentials showing that the applicant before the  
20 effectivity of this Act is a bachelor's degree holder of speech language pathology  
21 from a college or university accredited by the CHED: *Provided*, further, That the  
22 applicant is a member of the Accredited Integrated Professional Organization.

23  
24 **SEC. 16. *Ratings in the Examination.*** – To be qualified as having passed the  
25 licensure examination for speech language pathologists, a candidate must have  
26 obtained a weighted general average of seventy-five (75%), with no grade lower than  
27 fifty (50%) in any given subject must take the examination in the subject or subjects  
28 where he/she obtained a grade below fifty percent (50%) within two (2) years from  
29 the date of his/her last examination. The topic of subjects retaken must have each a  
30 rating of no less than seventy-five percent (75%) in order to qualify as having passed  
31 the examination.

1 **SEC. 17. Report Ratings.** – The Board shall submit to the Commission the ratings  
2 obtained by each candidate within ten (10) calendar days after the examination  
3 unless extended for just cause.

4  
5 **SEC. 18. Oath of Speech Language Pathologist.** – All successful examinees  
6 qualified for registration and all qualified applicants for registration without  
7 examination shall be required to take an oath of profession before any member of  
8 the Board or any authorized officer of the Commission to administer oaths, prior to  
9 entering into the practice of speech language pathology in the Philippines.

10  
11 **SEC. 19. Certificate of Registration/Professional License and Professional**  
12 **Identification Card.** - A certificate of registration/professional license and  
13 professional identification card shall be issued to all successful examinees and  
14 registrants either with or without examination upon compliance with all the legal  
15 requirements including payment of fees prescribed by the Commission. The  
16 certificate of registration/professional license shall bear the signature of the  
17 chairperson of the Commission and the chairperson and members of the Board,  
18 indicating that the person named therein is entitled to the practice of the profession  
19 with all the privileges appurtenant thereto. The said certificate shall remain in full  
20 force and effect until withdrawn, suspended or revoked in accordance with this Act.

21  
22 A professional identification card bearing the registration number, date of issuance,  
23 expiry date, duly signed by the chairperson of the Commission, shall likewise be  
24 issued to every registrant who has paid the prescribed fee.

25  
26 **SEC. 20. Indication of Certificate of Registration/Professional Tax Receipt.** –  
27 The speech language pathologist shall be required to indicate his/her certificate of  
28 registration/professional license number and date of issuance, including the  
29 professional tax receipt number on the document he/she signs, uses or issues in  
30 connection with the practice of his/her profession.

1 **SEC. 21. Refusal to Register.** – The Board shall not register and issue a certificate  
2 of registration/professional license and professional identification card to any person  
3 convicted by a court of competent jurisdiction or a criminal offense involving moral  
4 turpitude or guilty of immoral or dishonorable conduct or to any person of unsound  
5 mind. In the event of refusal to issue the certificate for any reason, the Board shall  
6 give the applicant a written statement setting forth the reason for such action, which  
7 statement shall be incorporated in the record of the Board.

8  
9 **SEC. 22. Revocation or Suspension of the Certificate of**  
10 **Registration/professional License and Professional Identification Card and**  
11 **Cancellation of Special Permit.** – The Board may, after giving proper notice of  
12 hearing to the party concerned, revoke the practitioner's certificate of  
13 registration/professional license or suspend him/her from the practice of his/her  
14 profession or cancel his/her permit for any of the causes or grounds mentioned in  
15 Section 21 of this Act or for any unprofessional or unethical conduct, malpractice,  
16 violation of any of the provisions of this Act, its rules and regulations, the Code of  
17 Ethics and the Standards for speech language pathologists.

18  
19 **SEC. 23. Reinstatement, Re-issuance or Replacement of Certificate of**  
20 **Registration/Professional License.** – A person may apply to the Board for  
21 reinstatement of a certificate of registration/professional license at any time after two  
22 (2) years from the date of revocation of said certificate. The application shall be in  
23 writing and shall conform with the requirements as provided by the Board. No  
24 certificate/license shall be reinstated unless the Board is satisfied that a good cause  
25 exists to warrant such reinstatement.

26  
27 **SEC. 24. Roster of Speech Language Pathologist.** – The Board shall prepare,  
28 update and maintain a roster of speech language pathologists in coordination with  
29 the integrated and accredited professional organization, which shall contain the  
30 name of each registration and issuance of certificates, and other data which the  
31 Board may deem pertinent. The roster shall be open to the public, copies of which  
32 shall be mailed to each person listed therein.

1 **SEC. 25. Issuance of Special/Temporary Permit.** – Special/temporary permit may  
2 be issued by the Board subject to the approval by the Commission and payment of  
3 the fees the latter has prescribed and charged thereof to the following persons:

- 4 a. a foreign speech language pathologist called for consultation for a specific  
5 purpose which, in the judgment of the Board, is essential for the growth of  
6 the profession: *Provided*, That his/her activities shall be limited only to the  
7 particular work, for which he/she is being engaged: *Provided*, further, That  
8 he/she is qualified to practice his/her profession in his/her state or country:  
9 *Provided*, finally, That there is no Filipino speech language pathologist  
10 qualified for such consultation or specific purpose;
- 11 b. a foreign speech language pathologist who is an internationally recognized  
12 expert or specialist in any branch of speech language pathology and  
13 his/her service is essential for the advancement of speech language  
14 pathology in the Philippines; and
- 15 c. a foreign speech language pathologist to be engaged as professor,  
16 lecturer, or critic in fields essential to speech language pathology  
17 education in the Philippines is confined to teaching only.

18  
19 The permit shall, among other things, include these limitations and conditions: for a  
20 period of not more than one (1) year subject to renewal, the branch or specialty of  
21 speech language pathology, and the specific place of practice such as clinic,  
22 hospital, center, school/college/university offering the course of speech language  
23 pathology. The Board, subject to the approval by the Commission, shall prescribe  
24 rules and regulations on the implementation of this particular section.

25  
26 **ARTICLE IV**  
27 **PRACTICE OF SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY**

28  
29 **SEC. 26. Scope of the Practice of Speech Language Pathology.** – The Scope of  
30 the Practice of Speech Language Pathology shall embrace, but shall not be limited  
31 to the performance, in collaboration with professionals, families and the community  
32 of any of the following:

- 1 a. Screen, identify, assess, diagnose, manage and prevent disorders of  
2 speech such as, but not limited to articulation, fluency, voice, hearing and  
3 language;
- 4 b. Screen, identify, assess, diagnose, manage and prevent disorders of oral-  
5 pharyngeal functions such as, but not limited to dysphagia and related  
6 disorders;
- 7 c. Screen, identify, assess, diagnose and manage cognitive-linguistic  
8 communication conditions;
- 9 d. Assess, select and develop augmentative and alternative communication  
10 systems and provide training in their use;
- 11 e. Screen hearing acuity for the purpose of speech language evaluation and  
12 aural rehabilitation;
- 13 f. Plan, teach and carry out home programs and training for patients and  
14 their families;
- 15 g. Plan, conduct and evaluate teaching-learning activities for students of  
16 speech language pathology and other related courses; for other health  
17 professionals, patients and their families;
- 18 h. Plan, conduct and evaluate researches in pursuit of new knowledge for the  
19 growth of speech language pathology in the Philippines;
- 20 i. Provide consultancy to government and non-government organization  
21 regarding the field of speech language pathology; and
- 22 j. Perform administrative duties in speech language pathology clinics/units in  
23 hospitals, schools and other rehabilitation centers;
- 24 k. Teaching, lecturing, reviewing subjects given in the licensure examination;  
25 and,
- 26 l. Collaboration with other disciplines in managing the above-mentioned  
27 conditions as stated in agreements formulated jointly between the relevant  
28 Accredited Professional Organizations of those disciplines and the  
29 Accredited Professional Organization for speech-language pathology.

30

31 **SEC. 27. Prohibition on the Practice of Speech Language Pathology.** – No  
32 person shall practice or offer to practice speech language pathology in the  
33 Philippines or offer himself/herself as speech language pathologist, or use the title,  
34 word, letter figure, or a sign tending to convey the impression that he/she is a speech

1 language pathologist, or advertise or indicate in any manner whatsoever that he/she  
2 is qualified to perform the work of a speech language pathologist unless he/she has  
3 satisfactorily passed the licensure examination given by the Board, except as  
4 otherwise provided in this Act, and is a holder of a valid certificate of  
5 registration/professional license and professional identification card or a valid  
6 temporary/special permit duly issued to him/her by the Board and the Commission.

7  
8 **SEC. 28. *Prohibited Acts.*** – The following acts are prohibited:

- 9 a. Engage in the practice of speech language pathology by representing  
10 himself/herself as a speech language pathologist without a valid certificate  
11 of registration/professional license or a valid temporary/special permit  
12 granted by the Board pursuant to this Act;
- 13 b. Practice his/her profession during the period of his/her suspension from  
14 the practice thereof;
- 15 c. Allow an unqualified person to advertise or to practice the profession by  
16 using his/her certificate of registration/professional license or  
17 temporary/special permit; and
- 18 d. Use as his/her own the certificate of registration/professional license or  
19 temporary/special permit of another.

20  
21 **SEC. 29. *Code of Ethics and Code of Technical Standards for Speech***  
22 ***Language Pathologist.*** – The Board shall adopt and promulgate the Code of Ethics  
23 and Code of Technical Standards for speech language pathologist prescribed and  
24 issued by the integrated and accredited national organization of speech language  
25 pathologists.

26  
27 **SEC. 30. *Continuing Professional Development (CPD).*** – All Speech Language  
28 Pathologists shall abide by the requirements, rules, and regulation on continuing  
29 professional education to be promulgated by the PRC Regulatory Board, subject to  
30 the approval of the Commission, in coordination with the AIPO for speech language  
31 pathology or any duly accredited education institutions. For this purpose, a CPD  
32 Council is hereby created to implement the CPD program.

1 **SEC. 31. *Integration of Speech Language Pathologist.*** – The speech language  
2 pathology profession shall be integrated into one (1) national professional  
3 organization of speech language pathologists that is duly registered with the  
4 Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). The board, subject to approval by the  
5 commission, shall accredit the said organization as the one and only Accredited  
6 Integrated Professional Organization (AIPO) of registered speech language  
7 pathologists. All speech language pathologists whose names appear in the Registry  
8 Book of Speech Language Pathologists shall *ipso facto* or automatically become  
9 members thereof and shall receive all the benefits and privileges appurtenant thereto  
10 upon payment of AIPO membership fees and dues.

11  
12 **SEC. 32. *Foreign Reciprocity.*** – No foreign speech language pathologist shall be  
13 given a certificate of registration/professional license and professional identification  
14 card or be entitled to any of the privileges under this Act unless the country of which  
15 the foreign speech language pathologist is a subject or citizen specifically permits  
16 Filipino speech language pathologists to practice within its territorial limits on the  
17 same basis as the subjects of said country or state.

18  
19 **ARTICLE V**  
20 **FINAL PROVISIONS**

21  
22 **SEC. 33. *Funding Provision.*** – The Chairman of the Professional Regulation  
23 Commission shall immediately include in the Commission's programs the  
24 implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be included in the annual  
25 General Appropriations Acts and thereafter.

26  
27 **SEC. 34. *Penalties.*** – Any person who shall violate any of the provisions of this Act  
28 or any of its implementing rules and regulations as promulgated by the Board subject  
29 to the approval of the Commission shall upon conviction, be punished by a fine of not  
30 less than Twenty Thousand Pesos (P20,000.00) nor more than Fifty Thousand  
31 Pesos (P50,000.00) or by imprisonment of not less than two (2) years nor more than  
32 five (5) years, or both, subject to the discretion of the court.



1 **SEC. 35. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** – To implement the provisions of  
2 this Act, the Board, shall, subject to the approval of the Commission, promulgate the  
3 rules and regulations and the Code of Ethics for speech language pathologists within  
4 sixty (60) days after the constitution of the first Board.

5

6 **SEC. 36. *Separability Clause.*** – If any section or provision of this Act shall be  
7 declared invalid or unconstitutional, the same shall not invalidate any other section or  
8 provision of this Act.

9

10 **SEC. 37. *Repealing Clause.*** – All laws, decrees, orders, issuances or parts thereof,  
11 which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified  
12 accordingly.

13

14 **SEC. 38. *Effectivity Clause.*** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its  
15 publication in the Official Gazette or in any two (2) newspapers of general circulation  
16 in the Philippines.

*Approved,*