

1 **H. B. 4482**

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3 (By Delegates Morgan, Stephens, Howell,
4 Hartman and Campbell)

5 [Introduced February 12, 2014; referred to the
6 Committee on Government Organization then Education.]

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10 A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by
11 adding thereto a new section, designated §30-32-11a, relating
12 to qualifications to practice speech-language pathology in
13 public schools.

14 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:*

15 That the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, be amended
16 by adding thereto a new section, designated §30-32-11a, to read as
17 follows:

18 **ARTICLE 32. SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGISTS AND AUDIOLOGISTS.**

19 **§30-32-11a. Qualifications to practice speech-language pathology**
20 **in public schools.**

21 (a) After June 30, 2014, the board shall issue an educational
22 license to practice speech-language pathology exclusively in public
23 schools to applicants who:

24 (1) Apply for an educational license to practice

1 speech-language pathology exclusively in public schools by December
2 31, 2014;

3 (2) Provide proof of being employed or contracted by the West
4 Virginia Board of Education, a county board of education or a
5 regional education service agency by September 1, 2013, as a
6 speech-language pathologist;

7 (3) Possess at least a bachelor's degree or equivalent in
8 speech-language pathology from an educational institution approved
9 by the board which consists of coursework approved by the board and
10 delineated in a legislative rule; and

11 (4) Pay the license fee of \$100.

12 (b) The board may consider, on a case by case basis,
13 educational or work experience equivalency for applicants who do
14 not meet the requirements for licensure as an educational
15 speech-language pathologist.

16 (c) Persons licensed under the provisions of this article
17 shall renew their licenses biennially.

18 (d) After December 31, 2014, persons licensed under the
19 provisions of this section are subject to all the provisions of
20 this article.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to require the Board of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology to issue licenses to persons who have worked in public schools as speech-language pathologists on or before a certain date.

This section is new; therefore, it has been completely

underscored.