

Sound News

May 2017

Volume 30 Number 5

Legislative Updates: National & State

U.S. Over-the-Counter Hearing Aid Act of 2017

On March 21, 2017 U.S. Senators Elizabeth Warren (D-Mass.), Chuck Grassley (R-Iowa), Maggie Hassan (D-N.H.), and Johnny Isakson (R-Ga.), reintroduced (S. 670) to make hearing aids for those with mild to moderate hearing loss available over the counter (OTC). A companion bill (HR 1652) led by Representatives Joe Kennedy III (D-Mass.) and Marsha Blackburn (R-Tenn.) was also introduced in the House. The Over-the-Counter Hearing Aid Act of 2017 would make certain types of hearing aids available over the counter and remove unnecessary and burdensome requirements that currently create barriers for consumers who could benefit from hearing aids.

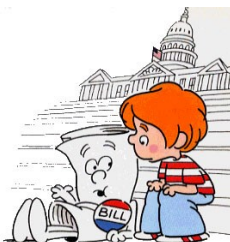
http://www.hearingloss.org/sites/default/files/docs/Warren-Grassley_Press_Release.pdf

Oregon Senate Bill 829

Requires video transmission of executive department and legislative department to be close-captioned for access by hearing-impaired persons. Provides exception. Applies to video transmissions created on or after January 1, 2018. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

Oregon Senate Bill 1018

Establishes Oregon Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing Program within Department of Human Services. Establishes Oregon Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing Committee for purpose of administering program. Specifies components of program and duties of committee. Becomes operative January 1, 2018. Takes effect 91st day following adjournment sine die.



Oregon Senate Bill 1023

Establishes Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing Fund. Continuously appropriates moneys in fund to Department of Human Services for purpose of administering programs of department for individuals who are deaf, deaf-blind or hard of hearing. Directs Public Utility Commission to transfer certain percentage of residential service protection and assistive telecommunication devices surcharge moneys to fund. Sunsets January 2, 2020. Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

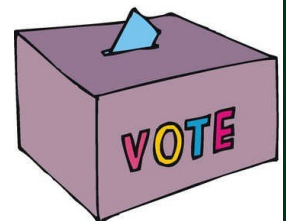
Oregon House Bill 3268

Repeals provisions directing Public Utility Commission to administer the residential telecommunication service program.

Oregon House Bill 3415

Imposes requirements upon mental health treatment providers and programs to ensure culturally and linguistically appropriate care for individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing. Authorizes civil penalty for violation of requirements. Prohibits and designates as unlawful practice denial of access to culturally and linguistically affirmative mental health services based on residual hearing ability or previous experience in alternative mode of communication. Requires Oregon Health Authority to appoint Coordinator of Mental Health Services for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Individuals and specifies duties.

The website for the Oregon State Legislature Activities is—
<https://olis.leg.state.or.us/liz/2017R1#>.



Editors' Notes

This issue is to help people understand how much goes on behind the scenes to improve the world for people with hearing loss. If no one speaks up, no one knows there is a problem. PLEASE, be part of the solution. Lesley & Tim

News From National ...

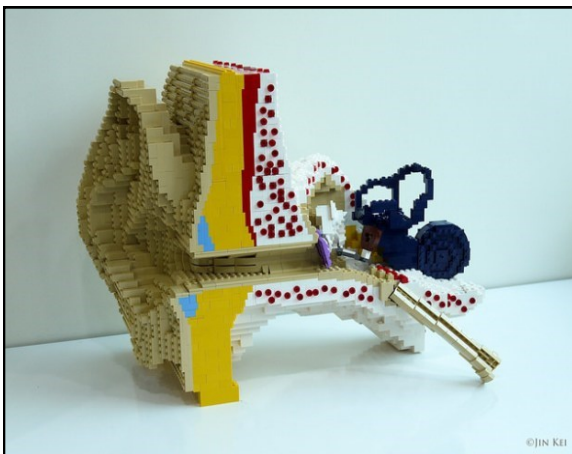
We have created a [new section of the HLAA website](#) entirely devoted to over-the-counter hearing aids. It includes information on what exactly an over-the-counter device is, what all this means to people with hearing loss, the NAS report, information on the [Call to Action](#) – what you can do to help, useful links and much more.

It's a Call to Action! Join HLAA in Supporting the Over-the-Counter Hearing Aid Act of 2017

Now Hear This! Now Hear This!

Listen up! Here's something you don't see every day — a cross-sectional model of the human ear, built from LEGO bricks. The work of South Korean builder Jin Kei, this is a large

-scale sculpture with an excellent level of accuracy detail, including the shaping of the Inner Ear organs in dark blue, and the rendering of the skull cross section in white with red dots to



represent the honeycomb-like structure of bone. <http://www.brothers-brick.com/2017/04/19/now-hear-now-hear/>

Chapter Newsletter—Last Issue in June

The **last** issue of *Sound News*, the newsletter of the Lane County Oregon Chapter of the Hearing Loss Association of America, will be the June 2017 issue. Thus, there will only be one more issue of this newsletter—June.

Instead, chapter members will receive the *quarterly* newsletter of the Oregon State Association—*Hear It Is!* If you have been receiving this chapter newsletter, then you should already be receiving the state newsletter.

Do you ask for accommodations:

- ◇ when you go to hotels?
- ◇ when you fly?
- ◇ When you travel?

Why not?

HLAA Webinars



The HLAA National Office sponsors educational webinars on the third Wednesday of each month from 5 to 6 pm Pacific time.

There is no charge to attend these through your computer or access past ones. All webinars are captioned. The website is <http://www.hearingloss.org/content/webinars>.

The May 17, 2017 webinar is titled "OTC Hearing Aids—Rationale for Support" presented by Alicia Spoor and Stephanie Czuhajewski. This talk focuses on The Over-the-Counter Hearing Aid Act of 2017 (see item on page 1).

- **Clark Anderson and Andrea Cabral** attended the Senate committee hearing on SB 829 (see item on page 1).

Out and About

Hearing Loss Assoc.-Lane County Oregon information calls are taken by Andrea Cabral, 541-345-9432

Sound News is published monthly for members of Hearing Loss Association of America Lane County Oregon Chapter.

Annual chapter fee of \$10.00 can be mailed to HLAA-LC, PO Box 22501, Eugene, OR 97402.

The date on your address label is **when your chapter fee is due**.

Officers

President	-----
Vice President	-----
Treasurer	Clark Anderson
Secretary	Tim Bergquist
Meetings/Program	Andrea Cabral
Meeting Room Setup	Arnie Goodman
Database	Karin Smith
Hospitality	-----
Publicity	Roseana Perry
Community Outreach	April Moran
Newsletter Mailing	Pat Reilly
Past President	Andrea Cabral

Board Members

Board Members	Phone	E-mail
Clark Anderson	541-736-4804	clarkoa@msn.com
Lesley Bergquist	541-461-2693	lesleyb@earthlink.net
Tim Bergquist	541-461-2693	timber49@earthlink.net
Andrea Cabral	541-345-9432(V/TTY/Fax)	angora@comcast.net
Arnie Goodman	458-205-8968	arniegood@yahoo.com

Article Deadline: Second Thursday each month

Newsletter Editors Lesley & Tim Bergquist

Typesetting & Design Lesley & Tim Bergquist

National website: www.hearingloss.org

Oregon website: www.hlaa-or.org

Chapter website: www.hearinglosslane.org
(go to Chapter website for digital version with links)

Amendment to Chapter By-laws Approved

The following amendment was unanimously approved by the eligible members present at the April 13, 2017 chapter general membership meeting (change in bold text).

Article XI – Financial

D. In the event that the chapter dissolves or ceases to function, the Board shall after determining that all liabilities have been paid, or that provisions have been made for paying said liabilities, donate all remaining funds to Hearing Loss Association of America, **Oregon State Association**.



Help is available....

Upon Request!

Chapter Changes ...

Due to a lack of volunteers, the chapter board is discussing several options: (1) transferring all operations to a Steering Committee, (2) moving to quarterly meetings, and (3) stopping the monthly chapter newsletter (members would get chapter news in the quarterly state newsletter). If you have a concern about any of these issues, please contact a board member (see email addresses on page 2) **or come to our next board meeting May 2nd**

Join National! - They *advocate for us* on a national level. Annual membership in HLAA is \$20 student, \$35 individuals, \$45 couple/family, \$60 professional. It includes the award-winning bi-monthly magazine, *Hearing Loss*. Write HLAA, 7910 Woodmont Ave., Ste. 1200, Bethesda, MD 20814; 301-657-2248 (Voice); 301-913-9413 (Fax) or www.hearingloss.org.

Hearing Loss Assoc. of Lane County Chapter Fee and National Membership Form

Please fill out this form /survey and turn in at the general meeting or mail to HLAA - Lane Co., PO Box 22501, Eugene, OR 97402.

I have enclosed: **Chapter fee** _____ \$10.00 per person,

Chapter Donation of \$ _____

National dues _____ \$35.00 (regular), _____ \$20 student, _____ \$45 couple, _____ \$60 professional*

Name: _____ E-mail: _____

Preferred phone: _____

Address: _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Occupation (former occupation if retired) : _____

Why are you joining us? _____

What most interests/puzzles you about hearing or hearing devices? _____

Are you interested in volunteering? What would you like to do? _____

How did you learn about us _____?

Would you like to be on our e-mail news list: _____ Yes _____ No

*Donations to either the national, state organizations or our local chapter are always welcome and are tax deductible. (We do not share our information lists with anyone else. Receipts will gladly be provided.)

At the Eugene Public Library!

New Survivor's Manuals

- FREE to Anyone

They keep 2 copies to check out on the second floor. We supply the free ones. *Donations appreciated.* Cost to mail copies is: \$4 each or 20 for \$35
PO Box 22501, Eugene, OR 97402



Disclaimer

Opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the individual author(s) and are not necessarily those of the HLAA Lane County Oregon Chapter. Mention of products and services does not mean endorsement, nor should exclusion indicate disapproval. Personal experiences and diverse opinions are welcome for publication, and should be sent to the chapter at the address shown on page 2. Unless otherwise noted, readers interested in duplicating or distributing any or all material in the *Sound News* have permission to do so. Please credit the source when using such material.

3:30– 5:00pm

Members: if you have **changed your e-mail address**, please notify Karin Smith of the change at: karinsm@efn.org



Memorial/Honorarium or Special Donations

I enclose a donation of: _____ \$10
_____ \$20 _____ \$50 \$ _____

This gift is In Memory of: _____

In Honor of _____

_____ Birthday _____ Anniversary

_____ Holidays _____ Marriage

_____ Survivors' Manual _____ Other

Please send notification of this gift to:

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

This gift is from:

Name _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____



Hearing Loss Association of America

P.O. Box 22501
Eugene, OR
97402-0419

Lane County Oregon Chapter

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Inside this issue:

Legislative Updates: National & State	1
Editors' Notes	2
News from National...	2
Now Hear This! Now Hear This!	2
Chapter Newsletter - Last issue	2
HAAA Webinars	2
Out and About	2
Amendment to Chapter By-laws Approved	3
Chapter Changes	3
Disclaimer	3
Membership Form	3
Meeting Information	4

This copy is free -
please feel free
to take it.

**NONPROFIT
US POSTAGE
PAID
EUGENE OR
PERMIT NO 471**

If the month & year on your mailing label have already passed, it's time to renew your membership! Please use the form on page 3 to pay your chapter fees today!



**HAAA-LC
General Meeting!
Thursday 7-9 pm**

May 11, 2017

2580 Hilyard St., Eugene, OR

Career Success After Hearing Loss

SUCCESS

This presentation will focus on career success after hearing loss. David Baldrige will begin by briefly reviewing research on career success in the general population and then turn to his current research on career success after hearing loss, and participants' own employment experiences.

David C. Baldrige, Ph.D., our presenter, is a Newcomb Fellow, an Associate Professor of Management and Director of Off-campus MBA Programs at OSU. He earned his Ph.D. in Management from the University of Connecticut, Storrs. His MBA in Finance and BGS with concentrations in Economics, English and Philosophy are from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. His teaching and research interests include: individual difference, perceptions, organizational behavior, organizational adaptation and technology utilization. He has been at OSU since 2004. He is deafened and has bilateral cochlear implants.



For more information, contact: lesleyb@earthlink.net. Please put "HAAA-LC Meeting" in the subject line.

General membership meetings are the 2nd Thursday of the month at 7 pm. They are accessible for all degrees of hearing loss by amplification - loop assistive listening systems.

Real time captioning by CC Reporting
(Debby, Chris, Jan and Sara)

Calendar

May Board Meeting
Tuesday May 2,
3:30 to 5 pm

Members Welcome
Hilyard Community Ctr.
2580 Hilyard St., Eugene