



Legislative Activity completed in 2025

SB 1207/1741: AHCCCS now covers outpatient speech-language pathology services and cochlear implants for adults!

During 2024-2025, ArSHA worked tirelessly with our lobbyist, Todd Baughman, to secure a sponsor for **SB1207 which would remove the exclusion of outpatient speech-pathology services and cochlear implants for adults on AHCCCS**. This exclusion was written into the AHCCCS law in 2010.

Senator Vince Leach (R) from District 17 was our sponsor. ArSHA also worked with Alexis Glascock (Lobbyist for the Arizona Otolaryngology Society lead by Dr. Shawn Stevens, a neuro-otologist in Phoenix).

Kathleen Evans Peterson was the 2023-2025 Chair of the Government Affairs Committee. Members of the Task Force were Sarah Glenn, Leah Mackie, Carolyn Abraham and Denise Stats-Caldwell. The leadership team included Victoria Clark (ArSHA President), Sarah Glenn (ArSHA President Elect) and Staci Dover (ArSHA Past President).

Near the last weeks of the 2025 legislative session, SB 1207 was dropped from the legislative agenda. However, Senator Leach and our Lobbyists were able to introduce an amendment to **SB 1741** which included the language above. **On Friday, June 27, 2025, SB 1741 was passed and the Governor has signed this bill into law.**

A special thank you for the patients who testified in both the House and the Senate to tell their story on how this exclusion impacted their lives.

Link to SB1741: <https://apps.azleg.gov/BillStatus/GetDocumentPdf/531412>

SB 1075: Arizona joins the Interstate Compact

This bill will allow licensed speech-language pathologists and audiologists to participate in the Interstate Compact (ASLP-IC). The bill was funded by Sevita Medical and was sponsored by Senator TJ Shope (R-LD16).

All wording and documentation for the bill was provided by ASHA so that this bill would match all of the requirements for inclusion in the Compact.

ArSHA provided educational support as well as testimony in the House and the senate in support of this bill.

On May 16, 2025, the Governor of Arizona signed this bill into law.

**According to conversations with ASHA, the Compact should be operational in the fall of 2025.

Link to SB1075: <https://apps.azleg.gov/BillStatus/GetDocumentPdf/530415>

HB2125: A bill to require insurance companies offering healthcare policies to include hearing aid coverage for children.

This bill was introduced by Representative Julie Willoughby (R) LD13, Majority Whip.

She sponsored a similar bill in 2024 (HB2112). This bill would have required that all insurance companies that sell healthcare policies in Arizona include hearing aid coverage for children under the age of 18 or up to 21 years of age if the child is still enrolled in school. This included cochlear implants, bone conduction devices and any other device that is intended to amplify or create hearing.

ArSHA provided testimony in the House in support of this bill. **Unfortunately, this bill did not advance to the Senate.**

Link to HB2125: <https://apps.azleg.gov/BillStatus/GetDocumentPdf/530645>