



General Assembly

February Session, 2006

***Raised Bill No. 500***

LCO No. 2600

\*02600\_\_\_\_\_GL\_\*

Referred to Committee on General Law

Introduced by:

(GL)

***AN ACT CONCERNING HEARING AID DEALERS.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 20-402a of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2006*):

3 (a) No hearing aid shall be sold to any purchaser unless  
4 accompanied in writing by a thirty-day trial period providing that if  
5 such purchaser returns the hearing aid in the same condition as when  
6 purchased, ordinary wear and tear excepted, within thirty days of the  
7 date of receipt of such hearing aid by such purchaser, such purchaser  
8 shall be entitled to free adjustment of such hearing aid or the return of  
9 the full purchase price of the hearing aid and accessories as itemized  
10 on the receipt therefor pursuant to subdivision (9) of section 20-404,  
11 whichever the purchaser desires; provided, a hearing instrument  
12 specialist and audiologist may retain as a cancellation fee for return of  
13 the hearing aid a charge not in excess of twelve per cent or twenty-five  
14 dollars, whichever is less, of the purchase price, excluding charges for  
15 any custom earmold and batteries. The charge for any custom earmold  
16 and any supply of batteries shall not exceed the seller's regular selling  
17 price for such earmold and batteries. In computing the actual cost, all

18 rebates, discounts and other similar allowances provided to the seller  
19 shall be considered.

20 (b) Every hearing instrument specialist and audiologist shall include  
21 in every receipt and contract pertaining to a sale, in reasonable  
22 proximity to the space reserved for the signature of the buyer, or on  
23 the first page if there is no space reserved for the signature of the  
24 buyer, a clear and conspicuous disclosure of the following specific  
25 statement in all capital letters of no less than twelve point boldface  
26 type of uniform font and in an easily readable style: THE BUYER HAS  
27 THE RIGHT TO CANCEL THIS PURCHASE OR RENTAL FOR ANY  
28 REASON AT ANY TIME PRIOR TO MIDNIGHT OF THE THIRTIETH  
29 CALENDAR DAY AFTER RECEIPT OF THE HEARING AID. A  
30 CANCELLATION FEE OF TWELVE PER CENT OR TWENTY-FIVE  
31 DOLLARS, WHICHEVER IS LESS, OF THE PURCHASE PRICE MAY  
32 BE IMPOSED.

33 (c) Every hearing instrument specialist, audiologist, corporation,  
34 partnership, trust, association or like organization that engages in the  
35 sale of hearing aids at retail shall include in every receipt, contract or  
36 order pertaining to the sale of a hearing aid, in reasonable proximity to  
37 the space reserved for the signature of the buyer, or on the first page if  
38 there is no space reserved for the signature of the buyer, a clear and  
39 conspicuous disclosure of the following specific statement in all capital  
40 letters of no less than twelve point boldface type of uniform font and in  
41 an easily readable style: ANY BUYER WHO ORDERS A HEARING  
42 AID AND LEAVES A DEPOSIT OF ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS OR  
43 MORE WITH THE SELLER SHALL BE ENTITLED TO CANCEL  
44 SUCH ORDER AND DEMAND A FULL REFUND OF SUCH  
45 DEPOSIT, LESS ANY EXAMINATION COSTS, IF THE BUYER IS  
46 UNABLE TO INSPECT THE HEARING AID AT THE SELLER'S  
47 PLACE OF BUSINESS WITHIN FORTY-FIVE DAYS AFTER THE  
48 DATE THE SELLER RECEIVES THE DEPOSIT.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	October 1, 2006	20-402a
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**Statement of Purpose:**

To place a cap of twelve per cent or twenty-five dollars, whichever is less, on the cancellation fee for return of a hearing aid.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*