

SCS SB 101 -- HEARING AID DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM

This bill requires the Missouri Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing to establish, subject to appropriations, a statewide hearing aid distribution program to provide financial assistance to certain low-income individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing to obtain hearing aids. All assessments for need and distribution of hearing aids shall be performed by a licensed audiologist hearing instrument specialist or licensed physician. The bill creates the "Statewide Hearing Aid Distribution Fund", which shall not include any funds from the Assistive Technology Trust Fund or the Deaf Relay Service and Equipment Distribution Program Fund. The Commission may accept gifts, donations, grants, and bequests for the program.