

\*\*, June \*\*, 2025

# news letter

## Howdy, Texas Audiologists!

Spring is in full swing, and the Texas Academy of Audiology is blooming with activity! I'm continually inspired by the passion and purpose across our membership. Thank you to everyone who made our Austin Advocacy Day 2025 a success! An incredibly group of professionals and graduate students traveled to the Capitol to meet with lawmakers and advance hearing health in Texas. Whether you attended or supported from afar, your involvement made a tremendous impact.

As we reach the halfway point of 2025, a year marked by uncertainty in economics, politics, and healthcare policy, it's more important than ever for audiologists to stay connected and informed. TAA is working hard to protect your interests and keep you ahead of the curve. We've been closely engaged with recent developments around the national EHDI program. While the headlines have caused concern, Texas' newborn hearing screening system remains mandated by Texas state law. TAA continues to work closely with TEHDI leadership, and our Pediatric Working Group remains actively involved in ensuring quality care for Texas children. If this is an area of interest or concern for you, I encourage you to reach out—we'd love your involvement.



**TEXAS ACADEMY  
of AUDIOLOGY**

Another reason to stay engaged with TAA is our partnerships. From supporting students and fostering camaraderie with the Scott Haug Foundation to collaborating with national audiology organizations and peer groups across the state (and region), TAA works across networks to amplify your voice and protect our profession.

Our 25th Annual Conference in Denton will be here before we know it—October 9–11 is just around the corner! In the meantime, please renew your membership, invite a colleague to join, and stay connected. TAA’s strength is in its members—and that means you.

As always, I’d love to hear from you at [president@texasaudiology.org](mailto:president@texasaudiology.org).

## TAA PRESIDENT

ALEXANDER MORRIS, AUD



## MEMBERSHIP ISSUE | BE HEARD IN 2025: TAA MEMBERSHIP NOW OPEN!

2025 Membership is **OPEN!!** Membership registration closes on August 15th! The Texas Academy of Audiology relies on annual membership dues to support Texas Audiologists in every facet. We are currently at a total of 310 members- thank you for your support!! 2025 Membership is open, please renew- and if you’ve never joined, now is a great time to do so!

### Membership Perks Include:

- Updates on current legislation
- Networking
- Access to job postings
- Annual conference
- Webinars
- Member’s only Facebook page

A big thank you for all the continued support! Membership not only enables TAA to advocate on your behalf but helps us do more to protect our scope of practice, reimbursement, representation, and bring in more learning opportunities!

Feel free to reach out with any membership questions:

[hdpavlicek@hotmail.com](mailto:hdpavlicek@hotmail.com)

## TAA VP of Membership

HOLLY PAVLICEK, AU.D.





See page 4 for additional photos

# ADVOCACY DAY 2025: MOMENTUM, MEETINGS & MOVING BILLS

As the 89th Texas Legislature session comes to a close June 2, 2025, I would like to share the success we had on our Advocacy Day March 12, 2025 which was our running start to the legislative session. We had a group of 38 audiology advocates from professionals representing the DFW, Houston, and Austin metro areas and including students from Lamar University, the University of Texas at Austin, and the University of Texas at Dallas. We had 29 meetings that included one with an actual representative.

Our group did a phenomenal job of representing our profession and the people we serve. We are grateful to the team of professionals for their collaboration leading up to our advocacy day that included the creation of the schedule, calling on the various representatives and senator offices to schedule our meetings, and creating leave behind leaflets. Our advocacy team also had the opportunity to meet with our TAA lobbyist Brad Shields and Erica Rodriguez at the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation. We have several important bills impacting our profession and below you can see the current bills and their status.



## Bill Updates

### **HB 3090 by Campos - Increased insurance coverage for cochlear implants & hearing aids**

This bill passed the House 144-0 last session but ran out of time in the Senate.

**We are still asking the Senate for a hearing on our bill.**

### **HB 4409 by Oliverson & SB 1843 by Paxton - Our SLP/Aud Compact Bill**

Despite being a part of a large coalition of providers who presented compact bills for numerous licensed providers this session, **no compact bills look like they will pass.** HB 11 by Phelan and SB 2531 Middleton-TDLR licensure

### **HB 11 by Phelan and SB 2531 Middleton- TDLR licensure reciprocity agreement**

This bill creates a universal licensure recognition program. TDLR will have to identify state laws that prevent the department from entering into a reciprocity agreement with a licensing authority in another state. The bill would require the Texas Commission of Licensing and Regulation (TCLR) to establish procedures for TDLR to determine whether the licensing requirements of another state were substantially equivalent to the requirements of the state. **(This bill is moving fast and likely to pass and go to the legislature).**

### **HB 905 by Zaffirini - TDLR Cleanup bill for SLPs and Audiologists**

This bill passed the House 144-0 last session but ran out of time in the Senate. **We are still asking the Senate for a hearing on our bill.**

### **HB 904 by Zaffirini - TDLR Cleanup bill for Fitters & Dispensers**

This bill passed the House 144-0 last session but ran out of time in the Senate.

**We are still asking the Senate for a hearing on our bill.**

Finally, if you are not a TAA member (or have not renewed for 2025), it is my sincere hope that Austin Advocacy Day 2025 has demonstrated the value in supporting the Texas Academy of Audiology.

Government policy and advocacy is a fraction of what TAA does for the profession, and I hope you will consider supporting the organization. Please encourage your colleagues and classmates to join as well. Our audiology voice is strongest when we use it together. [Click here to join/renew.](#)

## **VP of Legislative Issues**





JESSE H. JONES  
COMMUNICATION CENTER

ADVOCACY DAY 2025



# THE SCOOP FROM THE SCOTT HAUG FOUNDATION

## Scott Haug Foundation President

SCOTT MARQUARDT

Congratulations to The Texas Academy of Audiology on 25 years of dedication to audiology in Texas! We at the Foundation are thankful for TAA and all the work you do every year. It's my pleasure to give an update on what the foundation is working on this year to both support students and to promote fun at the TAA conference in Denton.

The Foundation will once again be organizing an amazing fundraising event on Thursday evening. The details are being finalized as we speak. There will likely be a ball involved other than a golf ball.... Stay tuned for more details. This will surely be a great event with lots of fun. The money we raise goes directly towards student scholarships. The more money we can raise the more we can put towards our deserving students.

Work has begun collecting nominations for the student scholar awards. Each year we recognize outstanding third-year students from each of our five Texas universities. Texas has the best programs in the country and these students are the best of the best. Every year the Foundation recognizes the Outstanding Audiologist. In Texas we have many amazing audiologists that deserve to be recognized for their contributions to the profession and to the communities we serve.

To nominate or learn more about the process of nominating an audiologist go to:

<https://scotthaug.org/ota/>

We can't wait to see you in Denton!!!





THE  
TEXAS ACADEMY OF AUDIOLOGY  
PRESENTS

A HOMECOMING TO  
REMEMBER:  
CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF  
TAA



MARK YOUR CALENDAR  
& JOIN US  
OCTOBER 9-11, 2025  
IN DENTON!

There is an impressive roster of speakers and content to cultivate and augment your professional development. Not to mention the opportunity to make new memories at our annual dinner/dance where a Homecoming Court will be crowned! Registration will open soon with the early bird deadline on **September 26, 2025**. Get your mums and corsages ready, we'll see you in Denton!

**Booking Link:**

[TX Academy Audiology Annual Conference](#)

PLEASE HEAD TO OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION

TAA PAC | WE NEED YOU!

STRENGTHEN OUR VOICE: SUPPORT PRO-AUDIOLOGY LEGISLATION WITH TAA PAC!

Each year our TAA PAC is here to support the TAA Board in supporting its causes in the State Legislature. We have several bills we are monitoring this legislative session and we need funds to support the legislators who help us. Last year we sent \$15,000 to candidates that support us and we need to replenish that money. Please consider donating to the PAC to help us in our endeavors.



: TAA-PAC



: c/o Kimberly DeBona, 4016 Tiffany Trail,  
College Station, TX 77845



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AGES  
8-17



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## ABOUT

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### CONTACT:

DHHS\_Camp\_Sign@hhs.texas.gov

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# Who is hiring?

- **See all of the current job listings:** <https://texasaudiology.org/classifieds.php>
- Looking to hire a Texas Audiologist? Looking for a new position? Post your job listing and view current jobs available. Contact us at [website@texasaudiology.org](mailto:website@texasaudiology.org) with any questions.



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