



ACDHH Position Paper

Issue: The cost of hearing aids makes affording them a hardship to many of the hard of hearing population of Arizona.

Background: The Hard of Hearing Task Force is recommending to the Board of the ACDHH a resolution that will help ease the financial burden of purchasing hearing aids.

History: With the rising cost of hearing aids and the recent influx of Internet sales of hearing aids, many people with hearing loss in Arizona will either go without hearing devices or may fall victim to the inadequate standards of hearing instruments sold via the Internet.

HOH Task Force Recommendation: The Hard of Hearing Task Force is recommending that the ACDHH take the appropriate means to insure that hearing aids be made more affordable and therefore more accessible to Arizonans with hearing loss. To that end, the task force is recommending that Arizona state insurance companies provide a minimum hearing aid benefit of \$1,500.00 per ear every three years to their subscribers.

This position paper was unanimously adopted by the ACDHH Board of Commissioners as ACDHH's formal opinion on this issue at the Board of Commissioners meeting on Thursday, January 17, 2013.