

# SENATE BILL NO. 1034

99TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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INTRODUCED BY SENATOR RIDDLE.

Read 1st time February 26, 2018, and ordered printed.

ADRIANE D. CROUSE, Secretary.

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## AN ACT

To amend chapter 209, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to a statewide hearing aid distribution program.

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*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:*

Section A. Chapter 209, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new  
2 section, to be known as section 209.254, to read as follows:

**209.254. 1. Subject to appropriations, the Missouri commission  
2 for the deaf and hard of hearing shall establish a statewide hearing aid  
3 distribution program to provide financial assistance to allow  
4 individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing and whose household  
5 income is at or below the federal poverty level to obtain hearing aids.**

**6 2. The Missouri commission for the deaf and hard of hearing may  
7 promulgate rules to implement and administer the statewide hearing  
8 aid distribution program under this section. Any rule or portion of a  
9 rule, as that term is defined in section 536.010, that is created under  
10 the authority delegated in this section shall become effective only if it  
11 complies with and is subject to all of the provisions of chapter 536, and,  
12 if applicable, section 536.028. This section and chapter 536 are  
13 nonseverable, and if any of the powers vested with the general  
14 assembly pursuant to chapter 536 to review, to delay the effective date,  
15 or to disapprove and annul a rule are subsequently held  
16 unconstitutional, then the grant of rulemaking authority and any rule  
17 proposed or adopted after August 28, 2018, shall be invalid and void.**

**18 3. The Missouri commission for the deaf and hard of hearing may  
19 enter into contracts as necessary to carry out the statewide hearing aid  
20 distribution program including, but not limited to, contracts with  
21 disability organizations.**

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