



## 1995 ASSEMBLY BILL 193

March 13, 1995 - Introduced by Representatives BALDUS, AINSWORTH, HUBER, SERATTI, ZIEGELBAUER, HANDRICK, PLOMBON and L. YOUNG. Referred to Committee on Insurance, Securities and Corporate Policy.

- 1 **AN ACT to amend** 448.08 (4); and **to create** 180.1901 (1m) (g) of the statutes;  
2 **relating to:** health care professional service corporations.

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### *Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau*

Under current law, certain health care professionals may organize a "service corporation" for the purpose of assisting those professionals in carrying on their professions. The shareholders in a health care professional service corporation do not need to be licensed, certified or registered in the same health care profession. Current law permits any of the following health care professionals to be shareholders in a health care professional service corporation: a registered nurse; licensed practical nurse; nurse-midwife; physician; podiatrist; physician assistant; occupational therapist; occupational therapy assistant; respiratory care practitioner; pharmacist; optometrist; psychologist; private practice school psychologist; social worker; marriage and family therapist; and professional counselor.

Also, under current law the patients compensation fund (fund) covers certain claims that arise from the acts or omissions of physicians, nurse anesthetists or their employes. The fund does not cover an employe who is a health care professional if the health care professional may practice without the direction and supervision of a physician or nurse anesthetist and if, at the time of an act or omission giving rise to a claim under the fund, the health care professional was not practicing under the direction and supervision of a physician or nurse anesthetist.

This bill provides that speech-language pathologists and audiologists may also be shareholders in a health care professional service corporation. Because a speech-language pathologist or audiologist may practice without the direction and supervision of a physician or nurse anesthetist, under the bill a speech-language pathologist or audiologist who is an employe of a health care professional service corporation will not be covered by the fund if, at the time of an act or omission giving rise to a claim under the fund, the speech-language pathologist or audiologist was

