

**CHAPTER 150****ORGANIZATION OF THE DIVISION OF THE DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING****Authority**

N.J.S.A. 34:1-69 et seq. and 52:14B-3(a) and 4(b).

**Source and Effective Date**

R.2007 d.159, effective April 18, 2007.  
See: 39 N.J.R. 2115(a).

**Chapter Expiration Date**

In accordance with N.J.S.A. 52:14B-5.1b, Chapter 150, Organization of the Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, expires on April 18, 2014. See: 43 N.J.R. 1203(a).

**Chapter Historical Note**

Chapter 150, Organization of the Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, was adopted as R.1992 d.460, effective October 22, 1992. See: 24 N.J.R. 4267(a).

Pursuant to Executive Order No. 66(1978), Chapter 150, Organization of the Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, was readopted as R.1997 d.335, effective July 21, 1997. See: 29 N.J.R. 3731(a).

Chapter 150, Organization of the Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, was readopted as R.2002 d.162, effective May 1, 2002. See: 34 N.J.R. 1932(a).

Chapter 150, Organization of the Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, was readopted as R.2007 d.159, effective April 18, 2007. See: Source and Effective Date.

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**SUBCHAPTER 1. SCOPE****10:150-1.1 Division history and purpose**

(a) The New Jersey Division of the Deaf, established by law in 1977, began operations on May 15, 1978 as a division of the New Jersey Department of Labor and Industry. On April 28, 1989, the Division of the Deaf was transferred to the Department of Human Services from the Department of Labor as a result of a reorganization plan. The Division was renamed the Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing.

(b) The purpose of the Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing is to act as an advocate for New Jersey's deaf and hard of hearing citizens by promoting increased accessibility to programs, services, and information routinely available to the state's general population. Programs and services of the Division are administered by a Director who is appointed by the Commissioner, Department of Human Services.

(c) The Division's services may include, but are not limited to:

1. Information and Referral;
2. Deaf and Hard of Hearing Awareness Day;
3. Interpreter Referral Service.

Amended by R.1997 d.335, effective August 18, 1997.  
See: 29 N.J.R. 3731(a).

Deleted (c)4 (Dial-a-News Bulletin Board) and (c)5 (New Jersey Business and Agency Text Telephone Directory).

**10:150-1.2 Definitions**

The following words and terms, when used in this chapter, shall have the following meanings:

"Deaf" means a hearing impairment of such severity that the individual cannot understand speech through hearing alone, even with the use of a hearing aid.

"Hard of hearing" means hearing impaired persons who are able to utilize their residual hearing through amplification to such a degree that they are able to carry on normal oral communication with a minimum of difficulty.

"Text Telephone or TTY" means a device that permits people with hearing and speech impairments to communicate using the standard telephone system without the aid of an interpreter. It generally consists of a keyboard and a display screen. "TTY" means text telephone and replaces TDD and TT.

Amended by R.1997 d.335, effective August 18, 1997.  
See: 29 N.J.R. 3731(a).

Changed name of "Telecommunications device for the deaf or TDD" to "Text telephone or TTY" and amended; and deleted "TT".

**SUBCHAPTER 2. OPERATIONS AND SERVICES****10:150-2.1 Information and referral**

(a) The Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing is a clearinghouse for information on hearing loss in New Jersey. The Division distributes, upon request, information concerning assistive listening devices, telecommunication devices for the deaf, sign language, captioning, and other relevant topics.

(b) The Division serves as an advocate for deaf and hard of hearing persons seeking services from public and private

agencies such as schools, courts, hospitals, employers and government.

(c) The Division makes available to the general public brochures and pamphlets which describe interpreting services, tips on communicating with the deaf, and information on how to use a TTY.

(d) The Division publishes the "Monthly Communicator" newsletter, which is distributed to deaf and hard of hearing individuals as well as professionals serving the deaf. The newsletter is a source of information for the deaf community involving cultural, social, educational and employment activities.

(e) The Division publishes the comprehensive publication entitled "Organizations Serving People With Hearing Loss in New Jersey."

Amended by R.1997 d.335, effective August 18, 1997.  
See: 29 N.J.R. 3731(a).

In (c), substituted "TTY" for "TDD"; in (d), substituted "5,400" for "3,500"; and added (e).

Amended by R.2002 d.162, effective May 1, 2002.  
See: 34 N.J.R. 1932(a).

In (d), deleted "more than 5,400" preceding "deaf and hard of hearing".

#### **10:150-2.2 Deaf and Hard of Hearing Awareness Day**

The Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing annually sponsors Deaf and Hard of Hearing Awareness Day in New Jersey. The event was initiated by the Division in 1984 to promote a better understanding by the general public of the deaf and hard of hearing. Information on hearing loss is available during the event. Also featured are performances by deaf and hard of hearing performers.

Amended by R.1997 d.335, effective August 18, 1997.  
See: 29 N.J.R. 3731(a).

#### **10:150-2.3 Interpreter Referral Service**

The Division operates an Interpreter Referral Service which is staffed by coordinators who process requests for

qualified sign language interpreters. The coordinators will match the appropriate interpreter with the specific needs of the client.

#### **10:150-2.4 (Reserved)**

Repealed by R.1997 d.335, effective August 18, 1997.  
See: 29 N.J.R. 3731(a).  
Section was "Dial-a-News Bulletin Board".

#### **10:150-2.5 (Reserved)**

Repealed by R.1997 d.335, effective August 18, 1997.  
See: 29 N.J.R. 3731(a).  
Section was "New Jersey Business and Agency Text Telephone Directory".

### **SUBCHAPTER 3. ADVISORY COUNCIL ON THE DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING**

#### **10:150-3.1 Advisory Council; membership**

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 34:1-69.1a, the New Jersey Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing has an 18 member advisory council which supports and guides the work of the Division. The members of the council are unsalaried. Twelve public members are appointed by the Governor for staggered terms of three years. Six representatives, one from each of the following, are ex officio members: the Department of Education, Health and Senior Services, Human Services, Labor, and the Commission on Higher Education, and the Marie Katzenbach School for the Deaf. Committee chairs appointed cover the following areas: Education, Community/Agency, Legislative, and Communications.

Amended by R.1997 d.335, effective August 18, 1997.  
See: 29 N.J.R. 3731(a).

Increased size of advisory council, amended number of members from specified groups, and amended groups from which members are drawn.