## **EXHIBIT J4**

| 1  | INTERIM STUDY PROPOSAL 2023-130                   |                                     |                                |
|----|---|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 2  |   |                                     |                                |
| 3  | State of Arkansas                                 | A D'11                              |                                |
| 4  | 94th General Assembly                             | A Bill                              | JMB/JMB                        |
| 5  |   |                                     | SENATE BILL                    |
| 6  |   |                                     |                                |
| 7  | By: Senator C. Penzo                              |                                     |                                |
| 8  |   |                                     |                                |
| 9  |   | Filed with: Senate Committee on Pub | lic Health, Welfare, and Labor |
| 10 |   |                                     | pursuant to A.C.A. §10-3-217.  |
| 11 |   | For An Act To Be Entitled           |                                |
| 12 | AN ACT TO AMEND THE DEFINITION OF "AUDIOLOGY"     |                                     |                                |
| 13 | RELATING TO THE PRACTICE OF AUDIOLOGISTS; AND FOR |                                     |                                |
| 14 | OTHER PURPOSES                                    | 5 <b>.</b>                          |                                |
| 15 |   |                                     |                                |
| 16 |   |                                     |                                |
| 17 |   | Subtitle                            |                                |
| 18 | TO AMEND  | THE DEFINITION OF "AUDIOLOGY"       |                                |
| 19 | RELATING  | TO THE PRACTICE OF                  |                                |
| 20 | AUDIOLOGI   | ISTS.                               |                                |
| 21 |   |                                     |                                |
| 22 | BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENER                        | RAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKA   | ANSAS:                         |
| 23 |   |                                     |                                |
| 24 | SECTION 1. Arkansas                               | s Code § 17-100-103(2), concernir   | ng the definition of           |
| 25 | "audiology", is amended to                        | > read as follows:                  |                                |
| 26 | (2)(A) "Audio                                     | ology" means the application of p   | orinciples, methods,           |
| 27 | and procedures of measurem                        | ment, testing, evaluation, predic   | ction, consultation,           |
| 28 | counseling, instruction, h                        | nabilitation, or rehabilitation r   | related to hearing             |
| 29 | and balance disorders of t                        | the auditory system for the purpo   | ose of evaluating,             |
| 30 | identifying, preventing, a                        | ameliorating, or modifying such o   | lisorders and                  |
| 31 | conditions in individuals                         | and groups of individuals, inclu    | <u>ıding:</u>                  |
| 32 | <u>(1</u>   | i) Evaluating, diagnosing, manag    | ging, and treating             |
| 33 | <u>auditory or vestibular con</u>                 | nditions in the human ear;          |                                |
| 34 | <u>(i</u>   | ii) Prescribing, ordering, selli    | ing, dispensing, or            |
| 35 | fitting hearing aids to an                        | n individual for the correction o   | or relief of a                 |
| 36 | <u>condition for which hearin</u>                 | ng aids are worn; and               |                                |

| 1  | (iii) Prescribing, ordering, selling, dispensing, or                          |  |  |
|----|---|--|--|
| 2  | externally fitting a sound processor to:                                      |  |  |
| 3  | (a) An osseointegrated device for the   |  |  |
| 4  | correction or relief of a condition for which osseointegrated devices are     |  |  |
| 5  | worn; or  |  |  |
| 6  | (b) A cochlear implant for the correction or                                  |  |  |
| 7  | relief of a condition for which cochlear implants are worn.                   |  |  |
| 8  | (B) "Audiology" includes without limitation:                                  |  |  |
| 9  | (i) Conducting health screenings;   |  |  |
| 10 | (ii) Removing a foreign body or cerumen from the                              |  |  |
| 11 | external auditory canal;  |  |  |
| 12 | (iii) Ordering cultures and bloodwork testing;                                |  |  |
| 13 | (iv) Ordering and performing in-office  |  |  |
| 14 | nonradiographic scanning or imaging of the external auditory canal; and       |  |  |
| 15 | (v) Ordering radiographic imaging.  |  |  |
| 16 | (C) "Audiology" does not include:   |  |  |
| 17 | (i) Surgery using an instrument, including a laser,                           |  |  |
| 18 | scalpel, needle, cautery, cryoprobe, or suture, in which human tissue is cut, |  |  |
| 19 | burned, vaporized, removed, or otherwise permanently altered by mechanical    |  |  |
| 20 | means, laser, ionizing radiation, ultrasound, or other means;                 |  |  |
| 21 | (ii) Osseointegrated device surgery;  |  |  |
| 22 | (iii) Cochlear impact surgery; or   |  |  |
| 23 | (iv) The preparation, operation, or performance of                            |  |  |
| 24 | radiographic imaging;   |  |  |
| 25 |   |  |  |
| 26 | SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 17-100-103, concerning definitions relating        |  |  |
| 27 | to speech-language pathologists and audiologists, is amended to add an        |  |  |
| 28 | additional subdivision to read as follows:                                    |  |  |
| 29 | (9) "Sound processor" means a nonsurgical, external unit that                 |  |  |
| 30 | attaches to an internal osseointegrated device or cochlear implant.           |  |  |
| 31 |   |  |  |
| 32 |   |  |  |
| 33 | Referred by Senator C. Penzo  |  |  |
| 34 | Prepared by: JMB/JMB  |  |  |
| 35 |   |  |  |
| 36 |   |  |  |

2