

IT IS ABSOLUTELY IMPERATIVE THAT THE FCC KEEP THE HEARING AID COMPATIBILITY RULE FOR MOBILE PHONES IN PLACE

The FCC partially lifted the exemption for digital mobile phones from the Hearing Aid Compatibility Act of 1989 in August 2003. The final rule requires that companies have two hearing-aid-compatible phones available in two years and handsets accessible to telecoil users in three years.

SHHH has advocated over a period of eight years to revoke the exemption for mobile phones from the HAC Act. Their first petition was filed with the FCC in 1995 to request access to mobile phones for hearing aid and cochlear implant users. The handset manufacturers are seeking solutions to implement the rule and have said they are confident they will make the implementation deadline. CTIA's request for reconsideration only delays those efforts.

In the ten years that the FCC has exempted the industry from the HA Compatibility rules, the industry has none absolutely NOTHING towards making their products compatible. I have suffered due to this delay.

There should be NO reconsideration.