

**NOVEMBER 13, 2015**

This is a weekly report from the HLAA national office in Bethesda, Maryland. Please also sign up for the [HLAA e-News](#) where this news is also published and much more.

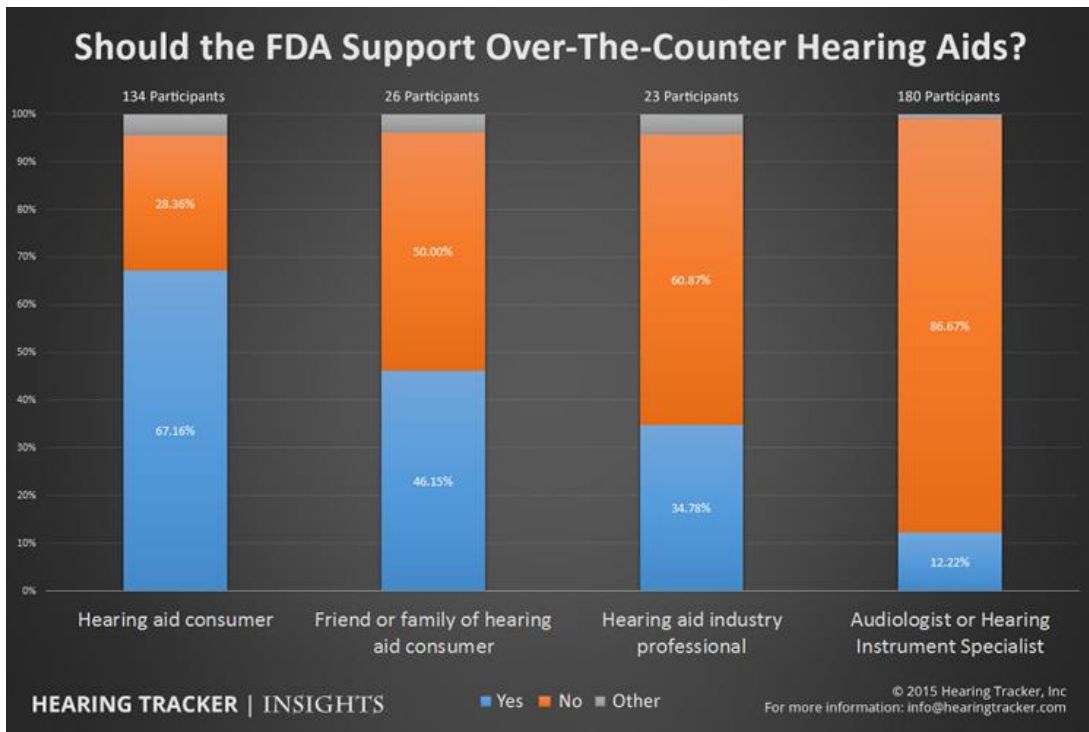
**ADVOCACY**

**Historic Changes Coming for Access to Hearing Aid Compatible Wireless Phones**

HLAA, in collaboration with the wireless industry and other consumer groups, has submitted a consensus letter to the FCC outlining a plan to make all wireless phones hearing aid compatible (HAC) within eight years. This proposal means greater choice in wireless phone selection for those with hearing aids or cochlear implants than what is currently available. [Read the whole story here.](#)

**PUBLIC AWARENESS**

Hearing Tracker has initiated an online survey asking hearing health care professionals, consumers and members of the industry "Should the FDA Support Over-The-Counter Hearing Aids? Data was gathered via Hearing Tracker's consumer and provider newsletter subscribers, consumer and professional members of HLAA, and from hearing-industry groups on LinkedIn. [Follow this link to participate in the survey and to see initial results.](#)



## **Survey on Banking for People with Hearing Loss**

The [World Institute on Disability](#) (WID) and the Hearing Loss Association of America (HLAA) are conducting a brief 10 to 15-minute survey about access to and use of banking and financial institutions for people with hearing loss.

Results from this survey will be used to inform the financial and banking industry as to best practices to make information and services more accessible to people with hearing loss. No individual identifying data or characteristics will be provided to any outside agency, organization or business. All responses will be combined and no individual responses will be made available. After the completion of the study, all contact information will be destroyed.

[Take the survey here.](#)

## **DEVELOPMENT**

When doing your holiday shopping, don't forget to think about how your shopping can support HLAA. Here are three ways that a portion of your purchases could be donated to HLAA.



Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible [Amazon Smile](#) purchases to HLAA whenever you shop on Amazon Smile.



Shop using [iGive](#) and up to 26% of your purchase is donated to HLAA. Shop online at more than 900 great stores –**its free**– it's simple. Save money with thousands of coupons and promo codes to use at checkout.



With [GoodSearch](#) find coupons and free shipping offers at your favorite stores and a percentage of your purchase goes to HLA at no cost to you.

## **PRODUCT/SERVICE SHOWCASE WEBINARS**

Mark your calendar for the upcoming webinars:

**November 18, 8 p.m. – 9 p.m.** – HLAA Board of Trustees Chairperson Margaret Wallhagen, Ph.D., and Executive Director Anna Gilmore Hall welcome you to the first *HLAA Town Hall Meeting*.

**December 16, 8 p.m. – 9 p.m.** – Christine Cassel, M.D., President and CEO of [National Quality Forum](#), will present *Aging America and Hearing Loss: The PCAST Report Explained*. See the [Schedule page](#) for more information. Webinar times are Eastern Standard Time. All webinars are free, captioned, and recorded. The recordings are posted on the [Webinar Replay page](#) of our website, usually within a week.

## **AWARDS**

Honor HLAA's finest by submitting an award nomination by **December 4, 2015**. Nominate a chapter, state organization or individual. [All the information and applications are here on the HLAA website.](#)

## **CONVENTION 2016/IFHOH CONGRESS**

### **Call for Papers Deadline – Friday, December 4**

Interested in presenting a workshop at Convention 2016/IFHOH Congress? If you want to present in the State/Chapter Development Room, please complete the [Call for Papers form](#). If you are interested in presenting in one of the educational tracks, please submit your proposal on the [Call for Papers collection site](#). If you are not sure where your proposal fits or have another question, please email [Nancy Macklin](#), HLAA Director of Events.

### **Holiday Gift Idea! Early-Bird Registration Deadline – January 31, 2016**

Not sure what to get that special person on your holiday list? Why not a Convention registration? It's the gift that will last a lifetime! We'll even send you a little something to wrap up.