

Sixty-fourth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL NO. 1366

Introduced by

Representatives Maragos, Hofstad, D. Johnson

Senator Oehlke

1 A BILL ~~for an Act to create and enact section 25-07-13 of the North Dakota Century Code,~~
 2 ~~relating to a bill of rights for children who are deaf or hearing impaired.~~for an Act to provide for
 3 collaboration between the school for the deaf and school districts on the provision of
 4 appropriate services and resources to children who are deaf or hearing impaired and the
 5 families of children who are deaf or hearing impaired.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

7 ~~SECTION 1.~~ Section 25-07-13 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and enacted as
 8 follows:

9 ~~25-07-13. Bill of rights - Children who are deaf or hearing impaired.~~

10 ~~The legislative assembly believes that children who are deaf or hearing impaired are~~
 11 ~~entitled to the following:~~

12 ~~1. Appropriate screening and assessment of hearing and vision capabilities and~~
 13 ~~communication and language needs at the earliest possible age and continuation of~~
 14 ~~screening services throughout their educational experience.~~

15 ~~2. Early intervention to provide for acquisition of solid language bases at the earliest~~
 16 ~~possible age.~~

17 ~~3. Their parents' or guardians' full and informed participation in their educational~~
 18 ~~planning.~~

19 ~~4. The opportunity to interact in person or through technology mediums with adult role~~
 20 ~~models and peers who are also deaf or hearing impaired.~~

21 ~~5. Qualified teachers, interpreters, and resource personnel who communicate effectively~~
 22 ~~with the child in the child's mode of communications.~~

- ~~6. Placement best suited to their individual needs, including social, emotional, and cultural needs, age, hearing loss, academic level, mode of communication, styles of learning, motivational level, and family support.~~
- ~~7. Information on available resources in the state of North Dakota for parents or guardians of deaf or hearing impaired children.~~
- ~~8. Full educational support services provided by qualified professionals.~~
- ~~9. Full and equal access to all programs in their educational setting.~~
- ~~10. Awareness information provided to the public concerning medical, cultural, and linguistic issues of deafness and hearing loss.~~

SECTION 1. COLLABORATION BETWEEN SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF AND SCHOOL DISTRICTS TO PROVIDE SERVICES AND RESOURCES TO CHILDREN WHO ARE DEAF OR HEARING IMPAIRED.

1. The school for the deaf shall collaborate with school districts to ensure that children who are deaf or hearing impaired and families of children who are deaf or hearing impaired receive appropriate services and have access to appropriate resources including:
 - a. Screening and assessment of hearing capabilities and communication and language needs at the earliest possible age, and continuation of screening services throughout the child's educational experience;
 - b. Early intervention to provide for acquisition of solid language bases at the earliest age possible;
 - c. The opportunity to interact in person or through technological mediums with adult role models and peers who are deaf or hearing impaired;
 - d. Qualified teachers, interpreters, and resource personnel, who communicate effectively with the child in the child's mode of communication; and
 - e. Placement best suited to the child's needs such as social, emotional, cultural, age-related, hearing loss, academic level, mode of communication, style of learning, motivational level, and family support needs.
2. The school for the deaf shall:
 - a. Make information available to parents of children who are deaf or hearing impaired; and

- 1 b. Provide awareness information to the public concerning medical, cultural, and
- 2 linguistic issues of deafness and hearing loss.