

Introduced by

Representatives Brekke, Maragos

Senator Traynor

1 A BILL for an Act to provide a bill of rights for children who are deaf or hard of hearing.

2 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

3 **SECTION 1. Bill of rights - Child who is deaf or hard of hearing.** The legislative
4 assembly believes that a child who is deaf or hard of hearing is entitled to the following:

- 5 1. Appropriate screenings and assessments of hearing and vision capabilities and
6 communication and language needs at the earliest possible age and the
7 continuation of screening services throughout the child's educational experience.
- 8 2. Early intervention to provide for the acquisition of solid language bases at the
9 earliest possible age.
- 10 3. The full and informed participation of the child's parent or guardian in the child's
11 educational planning.
- 12 4. Adult role models who are deaf or hard of hearing.
- 13 5. Meeting and associating with the child's peers.
- 14 6. Qualified teachers, interpreters, and resource personnel who communicate
15 effectively with the child in the child's mode of communication.
- 16 7. Placement best suited to the child's needs, including social, emotional, and cultural
17 needs, age, hearing loss, academic level, mode of communication, styles of
18 learning, motivational level, and family support.
- 19 8. Individual considerations for free appropriate education across the full spectrum of
20 educational programs.
- 21 9. Full support services provided by qualified professionals in the child's educational
22 setting.
- 23 10. Full access to all programs in the child's educational setting.

Fifty-sixth
Legislative Assembly

- 1 11. A fully informed public concerning medical, cultural, and linguistic issues of
2 deafness and hearing loss.