



Sectional Analysis ver N

HB 39 - EDUCATION FOR DEAF & HARD OF HEARING (34-LS0199N) 5.7.25

“An Act relating to public school students who are deaf or hard of hearing.”

Section 1: amends AS 14.30.272 by adding new subsections:

1. School district must provide parent with comprehensive information regarding,
 - a. Hearing technology
 - b. Different methods of communication
 - c. Services and programs designed to help children who are deaf and hard of hearing
 - d. Information on support and advocacy services offered by public and private agencies.
2. Parent chooses the method of communication that will be the most appropriate for their child.
3. Services are delivered to child through professionals with training, experience and a background in the chosen method of communication.
 - d. School District must inform parent of school districts duties and the parents rights under section c.
 - e. In this section,
 1. Definition of “bilingual approach”
 2. Definition of “cued speech”
 3. Definition of “deaf”
 4. Definition of “hard of hearing”
 5. Definition of “Listening and spoken language”
 6. Definition of “total communication”

Section 2: amends AS 14.30.276 by adding a new subsection that requires the department to establish and operate a centralized program for students whose primary language is American Sign Language, provide residential services as part of the program, establishes that a school district may operate the program under specific requirements, and provide funding for the students who attend the program operated by a school districted under this subsection to that school district.

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