

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

HOUSE BILL 2765

58th Legislature
2004 Regular Session

Passed by the House March 9, 2004
Yeas 94 Nays 0

Speaker of the House of Representatives

Passed by the Senate March 4, 2004
Yeas 48 Nays 0

President of the Senate

Approved

Governor of the State of Washington

CERTIFICATE

I, Richard Nafziger, Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **HOUSE BILL 2765** as passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate on the dates hereon set forth.

Chief Clerk

FILED

**Secretary of State
State of Washington**

HOUSE BILL 2765

AS AMENDED BY THE SENATE

Passed Legislature - 2004 Regular Session

State of Washington **58th Legislature** **2004 Regular Session**

By Representatives Dickerson, Kagi, McDermott, Moeller, Talcott, Chase, Conway, Kenney and Morrell

Read first time 01/20/2004. Referred to Committee on Children & Family Services.

1 AN ACT Relating to information and services for children who are
2 deaf or hard of hearing; and adding a new chapter to Title 70 RCW.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds that children who
5 are deaf or hard of hearing and their families have unique needs
6 specific to the hearing loss. These unique needs reflect the
7 challenges children with hearing loss and their families encounter
8 related to their lack of full access to auditory communication.

9 (2) The legislature further finds that early detection of hearing
10 loss in a child and early intervention and treatment have been
11 demonstrated to be highly effective in facilitating a child's healthy
12 development in a manner consistent with the child's age and cognitive
13 ability.

14 (3) These combined factors support the need for early intervention
15 services providers with specialized training and expertise, spanning
16 the spectrum of available approaches and educational options, who can
17 address the unique characteristics and needs of each child who is deaf
18 or hard of hearing and that child's family.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) There is established an advisory council
2 in the department of social and health services for the purpose of
3 advancing the development of a comprehensive and effective statewide
4 system to provide prompt and effective early interventions for children
5 in the state who are deaf or hard of hearing and their families.

6 (2) Members of the advisory council shall have training,
7 experience, or interest in hearing loss in children. Membership shall
8 include, but not be limited to, the following: Pediatricians;
9 audiologists; teachers of the deaf and hard of hearing; parents of
10 children who are deaf or hard of hearing; a representative from the
11 Washington state school for the deaf; and representatives of the infant
12 toddler early intervention program in the department of social and
13 health services, the department of health, and the office of the
14 superintendent of public instruction.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** (1) The advisory council shall develop
16 statewide standards for early intervention services and early
17 intervention services providers specifically related to children who
18 are deaf or hard of hearing.

19 (2) The advisory council shall develop these standards by January
20 1, 2005.

21 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** (1) The advisory council shall create a
22 pamphlet to be provided to the parents of a child in the state who is
23 diagnosed with hearing loss by their child's pediatrician or
24 audiologist, as appropriate, upon diagnosis of hearing loss. The
25 pamphlet shall contain, at minimum, information on the following: The
26 variety of interventions and treatments available for children who are
27 deaf or hard of hearing; and resources for parent support, counseling,
28 financing, and education related to hearing loss in children.

29 (2) The pamphlet shall be available for distribution by July 1,
30 2005.

31 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** Sections 1 through 4 of this act constitute
32 a new chapter in Title 70 RCW.

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