

HOUSE BILL NO. 1422

Introduced by

Representatives Kunkel, Keiser

1 A BILL for an Act relating to 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 - Children who are deaf or hard of hearing.** The
4 legislative assembly believes that children who are deaf or hard of hearing are entitled to the
5 following:

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

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