

Introduced by

Representatives Maragos, Hofstad, D. Johnson

Senator Oehlke

1 A BILL for an Act relating to a bill of rights for children who are deaf or hearing-impaired.

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

3 **SECTION 1.**

4 **Bill of rights - Children who are deaf or hearing-impaired.**

5 The legislative assembly believes that children who are deaf or hearing-impaired are  
6 entitled to the following:

7 1. Appropriate screening and assessment of hearing and vision capabilities and  
8 communication and language needs at the earliest possible age and continuation of  
9 screening services throughout their educational experience.

10 2. Early intervention to provide for acquisition of solid language bases at the earliest  
11 possible age.

12 3. Their parents' or guardians' full and informed participation in their educational  
13 planning.

14 4. Adult role models who are deaf or hearing-impaired.

15 5. Meeting and associating with their peers.

16 6. Qualified teachers, interpreters, and resource personnel who communicate effectively  
17 with the child in the child's mode of communications.

18 7. Placement best suited to their individual needs, including social, emotional, and  
19 cultural needs, age, hearing loss, academic level, mode of communication, styles of  
20 learning, motivational level, and family support.

21 8. Individual considerations for free appropriate education across a full spectrum of  
22 education programs.

23 9. Full support services provided by qualified professionals in their educational 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 of
- 2        deafness and hearing loss.