

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 60—Assemblymen McClain, Anderson, Angle, Arberry, Bache, Beers, Berman, Brower, Buckley, Carpenter, Cegavske, Chowning, Claborn, Collins, de Braga, Dini, Evans, Freeman, Gibbons, Giunchigliani, Goldwater, Gustavson, Hettrick, Humke, Koivisto, Lee, Leslie, Manendo, Marvel, Mortenson, Neighbors, Nolan, Ohrenschall, Parks, Parnell, Perkins, Price, Segerblom, Thomas, Tiffany, Von Tobel and Williams

FILE NUMBER.....

ASSEMBLY CONCURRENT RESOLUTION—Urging the State Board of Education, the boards of trustees of school districts and certain educational personnel to consider the unique needs of children who are deaf or hard of hearing.

WHEREAS, The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, 20 U.S.C. §§ 1400 et seq., is the federal law which seeks to ensure that children with disabilities have access to a free appropriate public education; and

WHEREAS, Providing a free appropriate public education to children who are deaf or hard of hearing is an essential element of fulfilling this state's important goal of ensuring equality of opportunity, full participation, independent living and economic self-sufficiency for persons who are deaf or hard of hearing; and

WHEREAS, Children who are deaf or hard of hearing require highly specialized services, equipment and materials; and

WHEREAS, It is essential that children who are deaf or hard of hearing receive an education that is tailored to their unique needs in a learning environment that allows the children to develop to their fullest academic capacity; and

WHEREAS, The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act requires the development, review and revision of an individualized education program for each child with a disability that sets forth the educational program for the child and specifically addresses the unique needs of the child for the child to succeed fully in school; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That the Legislature urges the State Board of Education, the boards of trustees of school districts, school administrators and educational personnel to consider the unique needs of children who are deaf or hard of hearing; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Legislature urges the State Board of Education, the boards of trustees of school districts and all personnel responsible for the development of an individualized educational program for a child who is deaf or hard of hearing to ensure that:

1. The individualized educational program for the child takes into account the unique needs of the child and sets forth the least restrictive environment for the child in the school setting;
2. The parents and, if appropriate, persons who are deaf or hard of hearing assist in determining the appropriate educational program for the child;

3. The child receives instruction and other services in the child's primary mode of communication and other modes of communication, if appropriate;

4. The child is not denied the opportunity for instruction in a particular mode of communication solely because the child has the ability to hear some sounds, the child's parents are not fluent in the particular mode of communication or the child has previous experience with another mode of communication;

5. The child receives instruction and other services from teachers and other personnel who are proficient in communicating with the child in the mode of communication that the child understands, including, without limitation, American Sign Language, English-based manual or sign systems, or oral-, aural- or speech-based training;

6. The child has the opportunity to communicate directly with a sufficient number of his peers who are of the same age and ability as the child;

7. The child is exposed to adult role models who are deaf or hard of hearing; and

8. The child has an opportunity for participation, to the maximum extent possible, in all facets of school life, including, without limitation, recess, lunch, social events, athletic activities and extracurricular activities offered by the school; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Legislature urges the boards of trustees of school districts and the personnel responsible for the development of an individualized educational program for a child who is deaf or hard of hearing to ensure that the parents of the child are fully informed, at the time that the child's individualized educational program is developed, reviewed or revised, of the educational options provided by the school district and available to the child so that the parents can make informed decisions about their child's education; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly prepare and transmit a copy of this resolution to the President of the State Board of Education and the boards of trustees of the school districts in this state.

~