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HOUSE BILL 2930

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State of Washington                      54th Legislature                      1996 Regular Session

By Representatives Jacobsen, Radcliff, Romero and Wolfe

Read first time 01/29/96. Referred to Committee on Commerce & Labor.

1            AN ACT Relating to closed-captioning video for the deaf and hard of  
2 hearing; and adding a new chapter to Title 19 RCW.

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

4            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that:

5            (1) Closed-caption for the deaf and hard of hearing decoding  
6 capability technology is built into television sets manufactured after  
7 1993;

8            (2) Closed-captioned television has made it possible for thousands  
9 of deaf and hard of hearing people to gain access to and use the  
10 television medium, thus significantly improving the quality of their  
11 lives;

12           (3) Closed-captioning television can assist hearing, deaf, and hard  
13 of hearing children with reading and learning skills, and improve  
14 literacy skills among adults; and

15           (4) Closed-captioned television can assist those among our  
16 population who are learning English as a second language with language  
17 comprehension.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 2.**    A video movie, documentary, course, self-  
2 help, product, or merchandise that has been reproduced in a video  
3 storage medium format of electronic means for distribution, sale, rent,  
4 loan, or lease for educational, instructional, commercial,  
5 informational, promotional, or entertainment purposes must be closed-  
6 captioned for the deaf and hard of hearing.

7        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 3.**    This chapter does not apply to videos made  
8 for personal and private purposes of limited and restricted  
9 distribution.

10       NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 4.**    This chapter applies to a video storage  
11 medium manufactured or duplicated after December 31, 1997.

12       NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 5.**    Sections 1 through 4 of this act shall  
13 constitute a new chapter in Title 19 RCW.

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