
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1416

State of Washington

55th Legislature

1997 Regular Session

By House Committee on Education (originally sponsored by Representatives Mulliken, Romero, Talcott, Clements, Johnson, Costa, Wolfe, Mielke and Dunn)

Read first time 03/05/97.

1 AN ACT Relating to recognizing teaching degrees in deaf education
2 from a program approved by the council on education of the deaf; adding
3 a new section to chapter 28A.410 RCW; and creating a new section.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that an opportunity
6 exists to improve the overall educational development of deaf and hard
7 of hearing children by increasing access to teachers who have been
8 trained at a college or university approved by the council on education
9 of the deaf. Educators who received teacher training in a program for
10 the deaf and hard of hearing are sensitive to the needs of deaf and
11 hard of hearing students and are able to provide appropriate strategies
12 to assist students in reacting and interacting with their environment.
13 The legislature further finds that it is necessary to provide deaf and
14 hard of hearing students with greater learning opportunities to develop
15 the unique strategies and perceptions shared in deaf culture and to
16 optimize their potential in today's world. It is the legislature's
17 intent to increase these opportunities by eliminating identified
18 barriers to educators who are uniquely qualified to instruct students
19 who are deaf and hard of hearing.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.410
2 RCW to read as follows:

3 In establishing rules for certification, the state board of
4 education shall waive the special education endorsement requirements
5 for applicants who possess a baccalaureate or master's degree in deaf
6 education from a teacher training program approved by the council on
7 education of the deaf, and who intend to provide instruction to deaf or
8 hard of hearing children.

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