

HOUSE BILL 377

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1999 Regular Session
9r1085
CF 9r1136

By: **Delegates Hixson, W. Baker, Boschert, Bobo, Boutin, Bronrott, Burns, Cadden, Conroy, Conway, C. Davis, DeCarlo, Dembrow, Finifter, Franchot, Grosfeld, Hammen, Hubbard, Kirk, Leopold, Love, Marriott, Menes, Mohorovic, Montague, Nathan-Pulliam, Paige, Parrott, Pendergrass, Ports, Proctor, Riley, Rosso, Shriver, Sophocleus, Stern, Turner, Valderrama, and Weir**

Introduced and read first time: February 8, 1999
Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Education - Instructional Materials in Nonvisually Accessible Media**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring certain publishers to furnish certain instructional
4 resource centers with certain electronic instructional materials; and generally
5 relating to individualized education programs.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
7 Article - Education
8 Section 8-408(d)
9 Annotated Code of Maryland
10 (1997 Replacement Volume and 1998 Supplement)

11 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
12 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

13 **Article - Education**

14 8-408.

15 (d) (1) The Department shall develop procedures to coordinate the statewide
16 availability of textbooks and supplementary instructional materials in nonvisually
17 accessible media.

18 (2) THE STATE BOARD SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO REQUIRE A
19 PUBLISHER OF A TEXTBOOK, INCLUDING TEXTS IN ELECTRONIC MEDIA ADOPTED BY
20 A COUNTY BOARD TO FURNISH THE INSTRUCTIONAL RESOURCE CENTER
21 ESTABLISHED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION WITH AN ELECTRONIC
22 VERSION OF THE MATERIAL IN WHICH THE CONTENT:

1 (I) IS ENCODED IN TEXT SUITABLE FOR CONVERSION INTO
2 BRAILLE OR SYNTHESIZED SPEECH; AND

3 (II) HAS BEEN PREPARED USING A MARKUP LANGUAGE THAT
4 MAINTAINS THE STRUCTURAL INTEGRITY OF THE INFORMATION AND CAN BE
5 PROCESSED BY BRAILLE TRANSLATION SOFTWARE.

6 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
7 October 1, 1999.