Unofficial Copy   1999 Regular Session
F1   9lr1085
                                                                              CF 9lr1136

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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

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments
House action: Adopted
Read second time: March 22, 1999

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CHAPTER_____

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.

1   (2)   THE STATE BOARD SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO REQUIRE A
2 PUBLISHER OF A TEXTBOOK, INCLUDING TEXTS IN ELECTRONIC MEDIA ADOPTED BY
3 A COUNTY BOARD TO FURNISH, UPON REQUEST, THE INSTRUCTIONAL RESOURCE
4 CENTER ESTABLISHED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION WITH AN
5 ELECTRONIC VERSION OF ~~THE MATERIAL~~ PUPIL EDITION TEXTBOOKS FOR LITERARY
6 SUBJECTS, AND FOR NONLITERARY SUBJECTS WHEN THE TECHNOLOGY IS
7 AVAILABLE TO CONVERT NONLITERARY SUBJECT TEXTBOOKS TO A FORMAT
8 COMPATIBLE WITH BRAILLE TRANSLATIONS SOFTWARE, IN WHICH THE CONTENT:

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

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

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