

SENATE BILL 269

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1999 Regular Session
9r1136
CF 9r1085

By: **Senators Conway, Collins, Mitchell, Hughes, Blount, Hollinger, Exum, Sfikas, McFadden, Pinsky, and Dyson**

Introduced and read first time: February 4, 1999
Assigned to: Economic and Environmental Affairs

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments
Senate action: Adopted
Read second time: March 10, 1999

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.

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, UPON REQUEST, THE INSTRUCTIONAL RESOURCE
21 CENTER ESTABLISHED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION WITH AN

1 ELECTRONIC VERSION OF ~~THE MATERIAL~~ PUPIL EDITION TEXTBOOKS FOR LITERARY
2 SUBJECTS, AND FOR NONLITERARY SUBJECTS WHEN THE TECHNOLOGY IS
3 AVAILABLE TO CONVERT NONLITERARY SUBJECT TEXTBOOKS TO A FORMAT
4 COMPATIBLE WITH BRAILLE TRANSLATION SOFTWARE, IN WHICH THE CONTENT:

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

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

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