

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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April 16, 1997 LB 810, 851

Hearing Impaired and/or Hard of Hearing and Deaf people by September 1, 1999. The commission could charge a reasonable fee for the license and the Department of Education will work and has been working with the commission to develop educational interpreter guidelines. Types of interpreter assistance that schools would need to provide are auxiliary aides and qualified interpreters. This is not a choice. As I said at the beginning, it brings us into compliance with the federal law. This has been a requirement since 1994, and the Department of Education and the commission have been working on rules and regulations ever since then. The interpreters hired by school districts for K through 12 grades need to be licensed, they need to be trained and they need to be qualified. I am...have passed out a little example of how hearing impaired students in class may hear or get signs from when they're not getting a real interpretation of what the class is about. So, all I'm asking is to amend this into 851 so we can bring it along with 851 and have our students receive the best education they can and the...the young people who are hard of hearing and deaf have a real problem when they're mainstreamed into classrooms, and that's, of course, what we are doing. This is limited to public schools, K through 12. The committee, the Health Committee, made that amendment, and that's fine. We're pleased with that. So, if you have some questions, I'd be glad to answer them. There is a little fiscal impact because...I say a little. There is no such thing as a little fiscal impact, but you do need some training, and the impact on the public school districts is a little difficult to estimate at this time, but we do need some money in the Department of Education and in the commission to implement LB 810. So if you have any questions I'd be glad to answer them. Otherwise, I'd just appreciate the support of this amendment.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Crosby. Is there any discussion? Seeing none. Senator Crosby, to close. Closing is waived. The question before you is the adoption of the Crosby amendment to LB 851. All those in favor vote aye. All those opposed vote nay. Please record.

CLERK: 27 ayes, 0 nays, Madam President, on adoption of Senator Crosby's amendment.