

JAN 25 2012

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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO SPECIAL EDUCATION.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that using sign language  
2 and cued speech benefits children of many ages and specific  
3 populations, including children with autism, dyslexia, specific  
4 language impairments, and Down syndrome. The legislature also  
5 finds that the department of education should determine when  
6 sign language and cued speech services are appropriate.

7           The purpose of this Act is to ensure that the department of  
8 education makes sign language and cued speech services available  
9 to children who are deaf or hard of hearing and other children  
10 with a disability for whom sign language or cued speech services  
11 would be appropriate.

12           SECTION 2. Chapter 302A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
13 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated  
14 and to read as follows:

15           "§302A- Special education; sign language and cued  
16 speech. (a) The department shall ensure that sign language and  
17 cued speech services are available to:

18           (1) A child who is deaf or hard of hearing; and



1       (2) A child for whom sign language and cued speech  
2           services would be appropriate, as determined by the  
3           child's individualized education program.

4       (b) The department shall adopt rules pursuant to chapter  
5       91 to effectuate this section.

6       (c) As used in this section:

7       "Cued speech" means a phonemic-based system of  
8       communication that uses a small number of hand shapes in  
9       different locations near the mouth to supplement lip reading.

10       "Individualized education program" refers to a program  
11       authorized under section 302A-443.

12       "Sign language" means a language that uses visually  
13       transmitted sign patterns such as hand shapes, positions,  
14       movements, facial expressions, and body movements to convey  
15       meaning. Sign language includes American Sign Language.

16       "Sign language and cued speech services" means the  
17       instruction of sign language and cued speech, provision of  
18       simultaneous communication, provision of oral transliteration  
19       services such as amplification, and provision of sign language  
20       and cued speech interpretation."

21       SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

22

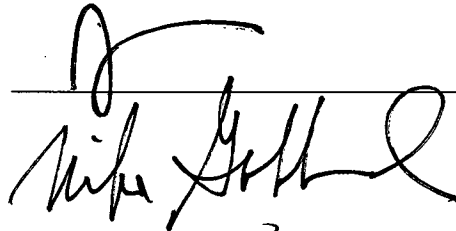
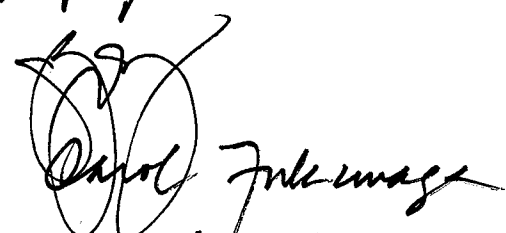
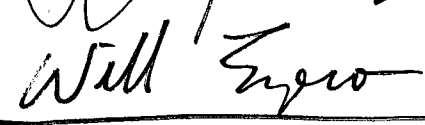


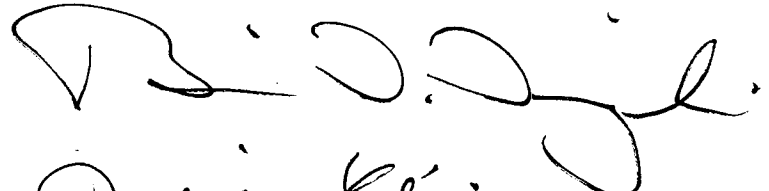
# S.B. NO. 2910

1 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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INTRODUCED BY:

  
Michelle Steloni



# S.B. NO. 2910

**Report Title:**

Special Education; Sign Language; Cued Speech

**Description:**

Requires the DOE to ensure that sign language and cued speech services are available to children who are deaf or hard of hearing and to other children with a disability for whom the services would be appropriate. Requires the DOE to adopt rules relating to providing sign language and cued speech services for children with a disability.

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

