

House _____ Amendment NO. _____

Offered By

1 AMEND Senate Committee Substitute for Senate Bill No. 224, Page 1, In the Title, Lines 3-4, by
2 deleting all of said lines and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

3
4 "to elementary and secondary education, with an emergency clause."; and

5
6 Further amend said bill, Page 4, Section 160.545, Line 118, by inserting after all of said line the
7 following:

8
9 "167.225. 1. As used in this section, the following terms mean:

10 (1) "Assessment", the National Reading Media Assessment or another research-based
11 assessment or series of research-based assessments authorized under the Individuals with Disabilities
12 Education Act that determines a child's learning media skills. The assessments shall address the
13 student's academic and functional strengths, deficits, and future needs;

14 (2) "Blind persons", individuals who:

15 (a) Have a visual acuity of 20/200 or less in the better eye with conventional correction, or
16 have a limited field of vision such that the widest diameter of the visual field subtends an angular
17 distance not greater than twenty degrees; or

18 (b) Have a reasonable expectation of visual deterioration; or

19 (c) Cannot read printed material at a competitive rate of speed and with facility due to lack
20 of visual acuity;

21 [(2)] (3) "Braille", the system of reading and writing through touch commonly known as
22 standard English Braille;

23 [(3)] (4) "Student", any student who is blind or any student eligible for special education
24 services for visually impaired as defined in P.L. 94-142.

25 2. All students [may] shall receive instruction in Braille reading and writing as part of their
26 individualized education plan unless, as a result of an assessment, instruction in Braille or the use of
27 Braille is determined not appropriate for the child. No student shall be denied the opportunity of
28 instruction in Braille reading and writing solely because the student has some remaining vision.

29 3. Instruction in Braille reading and writing shall be sufficient to enable each student to
30 communicate effectively and efficiently at a level commensurate with his sighted peers of
31 comparable grade level and intellectual functioning. The student's individualized education plan

Action Taken _____ Date _____

Action Taken _____ Date _____

1 shall specify:

2 (1) How Braille will be implemented as the primary mode for learning through integration
3 with normal classroom activities. If Braille will not be provided to a child who is blind, the reason
4 for not incorporating it in the individualized education plan shall be documented therein;

5 (2) The date on which Braille instruction will commence;

6 (3) The level of competency in Braille reading and writing to be achieved by the end of the
7 period covered by the individualized education plan; and

8 (4) The duration of each session.

9 4. As part of the certification process, teachers certified in the education of blind and visually
10 impaired children shall be required to demonstrate competence in reading and writing Braille. The
11 department of elementary and secondary education shall adopt assessment procedures to assess such
12 competencies which are consistent with standards adopted by the National Library Service for the
13 Blind and Physically Handicapped, Library of Congress, Washington, D. C."; and

14
15 Further amend said bill, Page 4, Section B, Line 3, by inserting after the word, "semester," the
16 words, "section 160.545 of"; and

17
18 Further amend said page and section, Line 6, by inserting after the first occurrence of the word,
19 "and" the words, "section 160.545 of"; and

20
21 Further amend said bill by amending the title, enacting clause, and intersectional references
22 accordingly.

23