

RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 617 (HB 315)

2022 Regular Session

Turner

New law requires public schools and all publicly funded programs, including early education intervention programs, that serve children with blindness, visual impairments, and deaf-blindness to do all of the following in serving such children:

- (1) Provide appropriate screening and assessment of functional vision and learning media.
- (2) Inform, teach, and assess children relative to the body of knowledge and skills unique to such students.
- (3) Provide instruction by teachers qualified to teach such students and access to braille materials and textbooks and assistive technology.
- (4) Teach orientation and mobility skills beginning at the earliest possible age.
- (5) Inform parents of State Bd. of Elementary and Secondary Education policies and regulations and fully participate in the development and implementation of Individualized Education Programs and Section 504 Plans.
- (6) Ensure that each Individualized Education Program team includes specified elements.
- (7) Employ and train qualified resource personnel.
- (8) Provide full support services by qualified professionals.
- (9) Provide students full access to all programs in their educational settings.
- (10) Place students in classroom settings that are best suited to their individual needs.
- (11) Provide free, appropriate education across a full spectrum of educational programs and activities.
- (12) Provide comprehensive academics, opportunities, and activities that allow students to meet and associate with their peers in the school environment.
- (13) Treat students as equal, active, and contributing members of their communities, classrooms, and schools or programs.

New law provides that new law does not create a right of action or prevent a parent from filing a complaint.

Effective August 1, 2022.

(Adds R.S. 17:1960.1)