

CHAPTER 647

H.B. No. 2462

AN ACT

relating to teacher editions of textbooks in braille.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:*

SECTION 1. Section 12.03(a), Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) The State Board of Education is authorized to acquire, purchase, and contract for free textbooks for the education of blind and visually handicapped public school students. *In addition, for a teacher who is blind or visually impaired, the board shall provide a teacher edition in braille or large type, as appropriate as determined by the teacher, for each textbook the teacher uses in the instruction of students. For each school year, the teacher editions must be available at the same time the student textbooks become available.* The textbooks shall be acquired, purchased, or contracted for as provided by Subchapter B of this chapter and by any applicable rule adopted by the State Board of Education. The board may also enter into agreements providing for the acceptance, requisition, and distribution of books and instructional aids pursuant to Public Law 922, 84th Congress, or as amended, for use by students enrolled in public or private non-profit schools. The agreements may include the purchase of textbooks for blind and visually handicapped students attending private, non-profit schools if no state funds except for administrative cost are involved.

SECTION 2. The importance of this legislation and the crowded condition of the calendars in both houses create an emergency and an imperative public necessity that the constitutional rule requiring bills to be read on three several days in each house be

suspended, and this rule is hereby suspended, and that this Act take effect and be in force from and after its passage, and it is so enacted.

Passed by the House on April 30, 1987, by the following vote: Yeas 142, Nays 0, 1 present, not voting. Passed by the Senate on May 23, 1987, by the following vote: Yeas 30, Nays 0.

Approved June 18, 1987.

Effective June 18, 1987.