

February 9, 2001  
ILR 2001-A

Representative Brad King  
House of Representatives  
318 State Capitol Bldg  
Salt Lake City UT 84114

**Subject: Textbook Needs for the Utah School for the Deaf and Blind**

Dear Representative King,

You requested that our office provide an estimate of textbook needs for the Utah School for the Deaf and Blind (USDB). Based on interviews with selected USDB teachers, we estimate that \$122,970 of textbook need exists within USDB.

To develop an estimate of USDB textbook needs, we interviewed seven teachers for the blind and eight teachers for the deaf in the Salt Lake and Ogden areas. As in the November audit report, teachers were asked to assess the condition of their textbooks, the adequacy of their textbook quantities and the relevancy of their textbooks. A condition need exists when the books are not usable. A quantity need exists when there are not enough textbooks for students. A relevancy need exists when a textbook is more than seven years old and the teacher indicates that the textbook covers less than 75 percent of the core curriculum. In estimating the replacement costs for textbooks used by blind students, we used current price information provided by USDB. In estimating the replacement costs for textbooks used by deaf students, we used cost data developed for our November audit report.

Based on our sample of 15 USDB teachers, we estimate that \$122,790 of textbook need exists within the USDB. Of this amount, \$111,000 is estimated to

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meet the needs of blind students while a little under \$12,000 is estimated to meet the needs of deaf students.

We hope this supplies the information you need. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call us at 538-1033.

Sincerely,

Wayne L. Welsh  
Auditor General

WLW:JTC/lm

cc: President Al Mansell  
Speaker Martin R Stephens  
Senator Mike Dmitrich