1	SCHOOLS FOR THE DEAF AND BLIND
2	AMENDMENTS
3	2009 GENERAL SESSION
4	STATE OF UTAH
5	Chief Sponsor: Kenneth W. Sumsion
6	Senate Sponsor: Curtis S. Bramble
7	Cosponsor: Jennifer M. Seelig
8	Y ONG TIME T
9	LONG TITLE
10	General Description:
11	This bill recodifies the Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind, including modifying
12	provisions regarding its employees and a student's eligibility for services.
13	Highlighted Provisions:
14	This bill:
15	defines terms;
16	 creates the Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind as a single public school agency
17	and a public corporation;
18	 allows the Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind to serve as the designated local
19	education agency (LEA) for a student;
20	• clarifies that the Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind, with certain exceptions, is
21	subject to state laws applicable to public schools and state government agencies;
22	 provides that the State Board of Education is the governing board of the Utah
23	Schools for the Deaf and the Blind;
24	directs the State Board of Education to appoint:
25	 a superintendent for the Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind; and

26	 members of the Advisory Council for the Utah Schools for the Deaf and the
27	Blind;
28	 directs the superintendent to appoint, subject to approval by the State Board of
29	Education:
30	• an associate superintendent to administer the Utah School for the Deaf; and
31	 an associate superintendent to administer the Utah School for the Blind;
32	 establishes the power and duties of the superintendent and the advisory council;
33	• establishes eligibility criteria for services of the Utah Schools for the Deaf and the
34	Blind;
35	 specifies educational program, assessment, and reporting requirements;
36	 provides that certain educators employed by the Utah Schools for the Deaf and the
37	Blind are exempt from classified service, state pay plan, and career service
38	provisions of the Utah Personnel Management Act and rules of the Department of
39	Human Resource Management;
40	 requires the State Board of Education to make rules to establish and specify
41	procedures for the operation of the Utah State Instructional Materials Accessibility
42	Center; and
43	makes technical amendments.
44	Monies Appropriated in this Bill:
45	None
46	Other Special Clauses:
47	None
48	Utah Code Sections Affected:
49	AMENDS:
50	53A-25a-105, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2002, Chapter 299
51	63I-4-102, as renumbered and amended by Laws of Utah 2008, Chapter 147
52	67-19-12, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2007, Chapter 166
53	67-19-15, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2008, Chapter 3
54	ENACTS:
55	53A-25b-101 , Utah Code Annotated 1953
56	53A-25b-102 , Utah Code Annotated 1953

57	53A-25b-103 , Utah Code Annotated 1953
58	53A-25b-104 , Utah Code Annotated 1953
59	53A-25b-105 , Utah Code Annotated 1953
60	53A-25b-201 , Utah Code Annotated 1953
61	53A-25b-202 , Utah Code Annotated 1953
62	53A-25b-203 , Utah Code Annotated 1953
63	53A-25b-301 , Utah Code Annotated 1953
64	53A-25b-302 , Utah Code Annotated 1953
65	53A-25b-303 , Utah Code Annotated 1953
66	53A-25b-304 , Utah Code Annotated 1953
67	53A-25b-305 , Utah Code Annotated 1953
68	53A-25b-306 , Utah Code Annotated 1953
69	53A-25b-307 , Utah Code Annotated 1953
70	53A-25b-401 , Utah Code Annotated 1953
71	53A-25b-402 , Utah Code Annotated 1953
72	53A-25b-501 , Utah Code Annotated 1953
73	REPEALS:
74	53A-25-101 , as enacted by Laws of Utah 1988, Chapter 2
75	53A-25-102 , as enacted by Laws of Utah 1988, Chapter 2
76	53A-25-103 , as enacted by Laws of Utah 1988, Chapter 2
77	53A-25-104, as last amended by Laws of Utah 1996, Chapter 37
78	53A-25-105 , as enacted by Laws of Utah 1988, Chapter 2
79	53A-25-107 , as enacted by Laws of Utah 1988, Chapter 2
80	53A-25-108 , as enacted by Laws of Utah 1988, Chapter 2
81	53A-25-109 , as enacted by Laws of Utah 1988, Chapter 2
82	53A-25-110 , as enacted by Laws of Utah 1988, Chapter 2
83	53A-25-111, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2007, Chapter 380
84	53A-25-201 , as enacted by Laws of Utah 1988, Chapter 2
85	53A-25-202 , as enacted by Laws of Utah 1988, Chapter 2
86	53A-25-203, as last amended by Laws of Utah 1996, Chapter 37
87	53A-25-204 , as enacted by Laws of Utah 1988, Chapter 2

88	53A-25-205, as enacted by Laws of Utah 1988, Chapter 2
89	53A-25-206, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2001, Chapter 73
90	53A-25-301 , as last amended by Laws of Utah 1995, Chapter 223
91	53A-25-302, as last amended by Laws of Utah 1995, Chapter 223
92	53A-25-303, as last amended by Laws of Utah 1995, Chapter 223
93	53A-25-304, as last amended by Laws of Utah 1995, Chapter 223
94	53A-25-305, as last amended by Laws of Utah 1995, Chapter 223
95	53A-25-306, as enacted by Laws of Utah 2001, Chapter 312
96	
97	Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:
98	Section 1. Section 53A-25a-105 is amended to read:
99	53A-25a-105. Braille versions of textbooks.
100	(1) As a condition of the annual contract for instructional materials process and as a
101	condition of textbook acceptance, the State Board of Education [through the State Office of
102	Education] shall require publishers of textbooks recommended by the [state] board to furnish,
103	on request, their textbooks [on computer diskettes, on request, for literary subjects in the
104	American Standard Code for Information Interchange (ASCII) and related instructional
105	materials in an electronic file set, in conformance with the National Instructional Materials
106	Accessibility Standard, from which Braille versions of all or part of the textbook and related
107	instructional materials can be produced.
108	(2) When Braille translation software for specialty code translation becomes available,
109	publishers shall [make computer diskettes available, on request, in ASCII] furnish, on request,
110	electronic file sets, in conformance with the National Instructional Materials Accessibility
111	Standard, for nonliterary subjects such as mathematics and science.
112	Section 2. Section 53A-25b-101 is enacted to read:
113	CHAPTER 25b. UTAH SCHOOLS FOR THE DEAF AND THE BLIND
114	Part 1. General Provisions
115	53A-25b-101. Title.
116	This chapter is known as the "Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind."
117	Section 3. Section 53A-25b-102 is enacted to read:
118	53A-25b-102. Definitions.

119	As used in this chapter:
120	(1) "Advisory council" means the Advisory Council for the Utah Schools for the Deaf
121	and the Blind.
122	(2) "Alternate format" includes braille, audio, or digital text, or large print.
123	(3) "Associate superintendent" means:
124	(a) the associate superintendent of the Utah School for the Deaf; or
125	(b) the associate superintendent of the Utah School for the Blind.
126	(4) "Blind" means:
127	(a) if the person is three years of age or older but younger than 22 years of age, having
128	a visual impairment that, even with correction, adversely affects educational performance or
129	substantially limits one or more major life activities; and
130	(b) if the person is younger than three years of age, having a visual impairment.
131	(5) "Blindness" means an impairment in vision in which central visual acuity:
132	(a) does not exceed 20/200 in the better eye with correcting lenses; or
133	(b) is accompanied by a limit to the field of vision in the better eye to such a degree
134	that its widest diameter subtends an angle of no greater than 20 degrees.
135	(6) "Board" means the State Board of Education.
136	(7) "Cortical visual impairment" means a neurological visual disorder:
137	(a) that:
138	(i) affects the visual cortex or visual tracts of the brain;
139	(ii) is caused by damage to the visual pathways to the brain;
140	(iii) affects a person's visual discrimination, acuity, processing, and interpretation; and
141	(iv) is often present in conjunction with other disabilities or eye conditions that cause
142	visual impairment; and
143	(b) in which the eyes and optic nerves of the affected person appear normal and the
144	person's pupil responses are normal.
145	(8) "Deaf" means:
146	(a) if the person is three years of age or older but younger than 22 years of age, having
147	a hearing impairment, whether permanent or fluctuating, that, even with amplification,
148	adversely affects educational performance or substantially limits one or more major life
149	activities; and

150	(b) if the person is younger than three years of age, having a hearing impairment.
151	(9) "Deafblind" means:
152	(a) if the person is three years of age or older but younger than 22 years of age:
153	(i) deaf;
154	(ii) blind; and
155	(iii) having hearing and visual impairments that cause such severe communication and
156	other developmental and educational needs that the person cannot be accommodated in special
157	education programs solely for students who are deaf or blind; or
158	(b) if the person is younger than three years of age, having both hearing and vision
159	impairments that are diagnosed as provided in Section 53A-25b-301.
160	(10) "Deafness" means a hearing loss so severe that the person is impaired in
161	processing linguistic information through hearing, with or without amplification.
162	(11) "Educator" means a person who holds:
163	(a) (i) a license issued under Title 53A, Chapter 6, Educator Licensing and Professiona
164	Practices Act; and
165	(ii) a position as:
166	(A) a teacher;
167	(B) a speech pathologist;
168	(C) a librarian or media specialist;
169	(D) a preschool teacher;
170	(E) a guidance counselor;
171	(F) a school psychologist;
172	(G) an audiologist; or
173	(H) an orientation and mobility specialist; or
174	(b) (i) a bachelor's degree or higher;
175	(ii) credentials from the governing body of the professional's area of practice; and
176	(iii) a position as:
177	(A) a Parent Infant Program consultant;
178	(B) a deafblind consultant;
179	(C) a school nurse;
180	(D) a physical therapist:

181	(E) an occupational therapist;
182	(F) a social worker; or
183	(G) a low vision specialist.
184	(12) "Functional blindness" means a disorder in which the physical structures of the
185	eye may be functioning, but the person does not attend to, examine, utilize, or accurately
186	process visual information.
187	(13) "Functional hearing loss" means a central nervous system impairment Ĥ→ that results
187a	in abnormal auditory perception ←Ĥ, Ĥ→ including an ←Ĥ auditory
188	processing disorder $\hat{\mathbf{H}} \rightarrow [\bar{z}] \leftarrow \hat{\mathbf{H}}$ or auditory neuropathy/dys-synchrony $\hat{\mathbf{H}} \rightarrow [\underline{\mathbf{that causes the person}}]$
188a	to appear as a
189	person with deafness or who is hard of hearing.], in which parts of the auditory system may be
189a	functioning, but the person does not attend to, respond to, localize, utilize, or accurately
189b	process auditory information. ←Ĥ
190	(14) "Hard of hearing" means having a hearing loss, excluding deafness.
191	(15) "Hearing impairment" includes hard of hearing, deafness, or functional hearing
192	<u>loss.</u>
193	(16) "Individualized education program" or "IEP" means:
194	(a) a written statement for a student with a disability that is developed, reviewed, and
195	revised in accordance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, 20 U.S.C. Sec.
196	<u>1400 et seq.; or</u>
197	(b) an individualized family service plan developed:
198	(i) for a child with a disability who is younger than three years of age; and
199	(ii) in accordance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, 20 U.S.C. Sec.
200	<u>1400 et seq.</u>
201	(17) "LEA" means a local education agency that has administrative control and
202	direction for public education.
203	(18) "LEA of record" means the school district of residence of a student as determined
204	under Section 53A-2-201.
205	(19) "Low vision" means an impairment in vision in which:
206	(a) visual acuity is at 20/70 or worse; or
207	(b) the visual field is reduced to less than 20 degrees.
208	(20) "Parent Infant Program" means a program at the Utah Schools for the Deaf and the
209	Blind that provides services:
210	(a) through an interagency agreement with the Department of Health to children
211	younger than three years of age who are deaf blind, or deafblind; and

212	(b) to children younger than three years of age who are deafblind through Deafblind
213	Services of the Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind.
214	(21) "Section 504" means Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.
215	(22) "Section 504 accommodation plan" means a plan developed pursuant to Section
216	504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, to provide appropriate accommodations to
217	an individual with a disability to ensure access to major life activities.
218	(23) "Superintendent" means the superintendent of the Utah Schools for the Deaf and
219	the Blind.
220	(24) "Visual impairment" includes partial sightedness, low vision, blindness, cortical
221	visual impairment, functional blindness, and degenerative conditions that lead to blindness or
222	severe loss of vision.
223	Section 4. Section 53A-25b-103 is enacted to read:
224	53A-25b-103. Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind created Designated LEA
225	Services statewide.
226	(1) The Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind is created as a single public school
227	agency that includes:
228	(a) the Utah School for the Deaf;
229	(b) the Utah School for the Blind;
230	(c) programs for students who are deafblind; and
231	(d) the Parent Infant Program.
232	(2) Under the general control and supervision of the board, consistent with the board's
233	constitutional authority, the Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind:
234	(a) may provide services to students statewide:
235	(i) who are deaf, blind, or deafblind; or
236	(ii) who are neither deaf, blind, nor deafblind, if allowed under rules of the board
237	established pursuant to Section 53A-25b-301; and
238	(b) shall serve as the designated LEA for a student and assume the responsibilities of
239	providing services as prescribed through the student's IEP or Section 504 accommodation plan
240	when the student's LEA of record, parent or legal guardian, and the Utah Schools for the Deaf
241	and the Blind determine that the student be placed at the Utah Schools for the Deaf and the
242	Blind.

243	(3) When the Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind becomes a student's designated
244	LEA, the LEA of record and the Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind shall ensure that all
245	rights and requirements regarding individual student assessment, eligibility, services,
246	placement, and procedural safeguards provided through the Individuals with Disabilities
247	Education Act, 20 U.S.C. Sec. 1400 et seq. and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973,
248	as amended, remain in force.
249	(4) Nothing in this section diminishes the responsibility of a student's LEA of record
250	for the education of the student as provided in Title 53A, Chapter 15, Part 3, Education of
251	Children with Disabilities.
252	Section 5. Section 53A-25b-104 is enacted to read:
253	53A-25b-104. Corporate powers.
254	(1) The Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind is a public corporation with perpetual
255	succession and a corporate seal.
256	(2) The Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind may:
257	(a) sue and be sued;
258	(b) contract and be contracted with;
259	(c) take and hold by purchase, gift, devise, or bequest real and personal property
260	required for its uses; and
261	(d) convert property, if not suitable for its use, into other property or money.
262	(3) The property of the Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind is exempt from taxes
263	and assessments.
264	Section 6. Section 53A-25b-105 is enacted to read:
265	53A-25b-105. Applicability of statutes to the Utah Schools for the Deaf and the
266	Blind.
267	(1) The Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind is subject to Title 53A, State System
268	of Public Education, and other state laws applicable to public schools, except as otherwise
269	provided by this chapter.
270	(2) The following provisions of Title 53A, State System of Public Education, do not
271	apply to the Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind:
272	(a) provisions governing the budgets, funding, or finances of school districts or charter
273	schools; and

274	(b) provisions governing school construction.
275	(3) Except as provided in this chapter, the Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind is
276	subject to state laws governing state agencies, including:
277	(a) Title 51, Chapter 5, Funds Consolidation Act;
278	(b) Title 51, Chapter 7, State Money Management Act;
279	(c) Title 52, Chapter 4, Open and Public Meetings Act;
280	(d) Title 63A, Utah Administrative Services Code;
281	(e) Title 63G, Chapter 2, Government Records Access and Management Act;
282	(f) Title 63G, Chapter 4, Administrative Procedures Act;
283	(g) Title 63G, Chapter 6, Utah Procurement Code;
284	(h) Title 63J, Chapter 1, Budgetary Procedures Act;
285	(i) Title 63J, Chapter 2, Revenue Procedures and Control Act; and
286	(j) Title 67, Chapter 19, Utah State Personnel Management Act.
287	Section 7. Section 53A-25b-201 is enacted to read:
288	Part 2. Governance
289	53A-25b-201. Authority of the State Board of Education.
290	(1) The State Board of Education is the governing board of the Utah Schools for the
291	Deaf and the Blind.
292	(2) (a) The board shall appoint a superintendent for the Utah Schools for the Deaf and
293	the Blind.
294	(b) (i) Except as provided in Subsection (2)(b)(ii), the superintendent shall:
295	(A) hold an administrative/supervisory license;
296	(B) have demonstrated success in administration of education programs;
297	(C) have demonstrated skill in organizational management; and
298	(D) have a knowledge of special education practice and law.
299	(ii) The board may grant a letter of authorization permitting a person with outstanding
300	professional qualifications, including management experience and skills consistent with the
301	mission of the Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind, to be appointed as superintendent.
302	(c) The board shall establish the salary for the superintendent.
303	(3) (a) The board shall:
304	(i) appoint members of the Advisory Council for the Utah Schools for the Deaf and the

305	Blind; and
306	(ii) receive and consider the recommendations and advice of the advisory council.
307	(b) The board is not obligated to follow the recommendations of the advisory council.
308	(4) The board shall approve the annual budget and expenditures of the Utah Schools
309	for the Deaf and the Blind.
310	Section 8. Section 53A-25b-202 is enacted to read:
311	53A-25b-202. Authority and duties of the superintendent.
312	The superintendent shall:
313	(1) serve as the chief executive officer of the Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind;
314	(2) subject to the approval of the board, appoint an associate superintendent to
315	administer the Utah School for the Deaf based on:
316	(a) demonstrated competency as an expert educator of deaf persons; and
317	(b) knowledge of school management and the instruction of deaf persons;
318	(3) subject to the approval of the board, appoint an associate superintendent to
319	administer the Utah School for the Blind based on:
320	(a) demonstrated competency as an expert educator of blind persons; and
321	(b) knowledge of school management and the instruction of blind persons, including an
322	understanding of the unique needs and education of deafblind persons;
323	(4) establish policies for student conduct and procedures for due process, consistent
324	with federal and state statutes;
325	(5) establish policies and procedures for reporting child abuse in accordance with
326	Section 62A-4a-403; and
327	(6) establish procedures to ensure effective communication and relationships with
328	school districts, charter schools, other state agencies, and the community.
329	Section 9. Section 53A-25b-203 is enacted to read:
330	53A-25b-203. Advisory Council for the Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind.
331	(1) (a) There is created the Advisory Council for the Utah Schools for the Deaf and the
332	Blind composed of at least six, but no more than 11, voting members appointed by the board.
333	(b) The advisory council shall include:
334	(i) two members who are blind;
335	(ii) two members who are deaf; and

336	(111) two members who are deathlind or parents of a deathlind child.
337	(c) The board may appoint other advisory council members who have an interest in and
338	knowledge of the needs and education of students who are deaf, blind, or deafblind.
339	(2) The board may remove a council member for cause.
340	(3) The board shall makes rules in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah
341	Administrative Rulemaking Act, regarding the operation of the advisory council, including
342	rules:
343	(a) specifying the term of membership for advisory council members;
344	(b) establishing procedures for filling a vacancy on the advisory council; and
345	(c) establishing procedures for dismissing an advisory council member.
346	(4) An advisory council member may receive per diem and expenses incurred in the
347	performance of the member's official duties at the rates established by the Division of Finance
348	under Sections 63A-3-106 and 63A-3-107.
349	(5) The advisory council shall meet at least ten times per year.
350	(6) (a) The advisory council shall elect a chair and vice chair from its membership.
351	(b) The advisory council may elect other officers from its membership.
352	(c) The advisory council officers shall serve one-year terms.
353	(7) A majority of the advisory council constitutes a quorum for the transaction of
354	business.
355	(8) The board shall assign a staff member from the Utah State Office of Education and
356	the superintendent to act as liaisons between the board and the advisory council.
357	(9) The advisory council shall:
358	(a) advise and make recommendations to the board, superintendent, and associate
359	superintendents regarding:
360	(i) staff positions;
361	(ii) policy;
362	(iii) budgets; and
363	(iv) operations;
364	(b) advise the board, superintendent, and associate superintendents as to the needs of
365	those who are deaf, blind, or deafblind and of appropriate programs and services to address
366	individual needs consistent with state and federal laws, rules, and regulations; and

367	(c) advise and make recommendations to the board regarding the continued
368	employment of the superintendent and associate superintendents.
369	(10) The board shall receive and consider the advice and recommendations of the
370	advisory council but is not obligated to follow that advice or adopt the recommendations.
371	Section 10. Section 53A-25b-301 is enacted to read:
372	Part 3. Services and Educational Programs
373	53A-25b-301. Eligibility for services of the Utah Schools for the Deaf and the
374	Blind.
375	(1) Except as provided in Subsections (3) and (4), a person is eligible to receive
376	services of the Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind if the person is:
377	(a) a resident of Utah;
378	(b) younger than 22 years of age;
379	(c) referred to the Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind by the person's school
380	district of residence or a local early intervention program; and
381	(d) identified as deaf, blind, or deafblind through:
382	(i) the special education eligibility determination process; or
383	(ii) the Section 504 eligibility determination process.
384	(2) (a) In diagnosing a person younger than age three who is deafblind, the following
385	information may be used:
386	(i) opthalmological and audiological documentation;
387	(ii) functional vision or hearing assessments and evaluations; or
388	(iii) informed clinical opinion conducted by a person with expertise in deafness,
389	blindness, or deafblindness.
390	(b) Informed clinical opinion shall be:
391	(i) included in the determination of eligibility when documentation is incomplete or not
392	conclusive; and
393	(ii) based on pertinent records related to the person's current health status and medical
394	history, an evaluation and observations of the person's level of sensory functioning, and the
395	needs of the family.
396	(3) (a) A student who qualifies for special education shall have services and placement
397	determinations made through the IEP process.

398	(b) A student who qualifies for accommodations under Section 504 shall have services
399	and placement determinations made through the Section 504 team process.
400	(c) A parent or legal guardian of a child who is deaf, blind, or deafblind shall make the
401	final decision regarding placement of the child in a Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind
402	program or in a school district or charter school program subject to special education federal
403	regulations regarding due process.
404	(4) (a) A nonresident may receive services of the Utah Schools for the Deaf and the
405	Blind in accordance with rules of the board.
406	(b) The rules shall require the payment of tuition for services provided to a
407	nonresident.
408	(5) (a) The board shall make rules in accordance with this chapter and Title 63G,
409	Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, that determine the eligibility of students to be
410	served by the Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind.
411	(b) The board may make rules to allow a resident of Utah who is Ĥ→ [younger than 22 years]
412	of age and who is] $\leftarrow \hat{\mathbf{H}}$ neither deaf, blind, nor deafblind to receive services of the Utah Schools for
413	the Deaf and the Blind $\hat{\mathbf{H}} \rightarrow \underline{\mathbf{if}}$ the student:
13a	(i) is younger than 22 years of age and has an IEP; or
13b	(ii) is younger than 19 years of age $\leftarrow \hat{H}$.
414	Section 11. Section 53A-25b-302 is enacted to read:
415	53A-25b-302. Entrance polices and procedures.
416	With input from the Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind, school districts, parents,
417	and the advisory council, the board shall establish entrance policies and procedures that IEP
418	teams and Section 504 teams are to consider in making placement recommendations at the
419	<u>Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind.</u>
420	Section 12. Section 53A-25b-303 is enacted to read:
421	53A-25b-303. Educational programs.
422	(1) The Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind shall provide an educational program
423	for a student:
424	(a) based on assessments of the student's abilities; and
425	(b) in accordance with the student's IEP or Section 504 accommodation plan.
426	(2) If a student's ability to access the core curriculum is impaired primarily due to a
427	severe sensory loss, the Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind shall provide an educational
428	program that will enable the student, with accommodations, to access the core curriculum

429	(3) The Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind shall provide instruction in Braille to
430	students who are blind as required by Chapter 25a, Blind Persons' Literacy Rights and
431	Education Act.
432	Section 13. Section 53A-25b-304 is enacted to read:
433	53A-25b-304. U-PASS testing and reporting.
434	(1) The Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind shall annually administer, as
435	applicable, the U-PASS tests specified in Section 53A-1-602, except a student may take an
436	alternative test in accordance with the student's IEP.
437	(2) By November 30 of each year, through 2011, the Utah Schools for the Deaf and the
438	Blind shall report to the board and the Education Interim Committee the following data:
439	(a) number of students served;
440	(b) services provided;
441	(c) student participation in state assessments;
442	(d) academic achievement of students; and
443	(e) the impact on enrollment at the Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind resulting
444	from statutory changes regarding eligibility.
445	Section 14. Section 53A-25b-305 is enacted to read:
446	53A-25b-305. Collaboration with Department of Health.
447	The Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind shall collaborate with the Department of
448	Health to provide services to children with disabilities who are younger than three years of age
449	in accordance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, 20 U.S.C. Sec. 1400 et seq.
450	Section 15. Section 53A-25b-306 is enacted to read:
451	53A-25b-306. Programs for deafblind individuals State deafblind education
452	specialist.
453	(1) The board shall adopt policies and programs for providing appropriate educational
454	services to individuals who are deafblind.
455	(2) Except as provided in Subsection (4), the board shall designate an employee of the
456	Utah State Office of Education who holds a deafblind certification or equivalent training and
457	expertise to:
458	(a) act as a resource coordinator for the board on public education programs designed
459	for individuals who are deafblind;

460	(b) facilitate the design and implementation of professional development programs to
461	assist school districts, charter schools, and the Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind in
462	meeting the educational needs of those who are deafblind; and
463	(c) facilitate the design of and assist with the implementation of one-on-one
464	intervention programs in school districts, charter schools, and at the Utah Schools for the Deaf
465	and the Blind for those who are deafblind, serving as a resource for, or team member of,
466	individual IEP teams.
467	(3) The board may authorize and approve the costs of an employee of the Utah State
468	Office of Education to obtain a deafblind certification or equivalent training and expertise to
469	qualify for the position described in Subsection (2).
470	(4) The board may contract with a third party for the services required under
471	Subsection (2).
472	Section 16. Section 53A-25b-307 is enacted to read:
473	53A-25b-307. Educational Enrichment Program for Hearing and Visually
474	Impaired Students Funding for the program.
475	(1) There is established the Educational Enrichment Program for Hearing and Visually
476	Impaired Students.
477	(2) The purpose of the program is to provide opportunities that will, in a family
478	friendly environment, enhance the educational services required for deaf, blind, or deafblind
479	students.
480	(3) The advisory council shall design and implement the program, subject to the
481	approval by the board.
482	(4) The program shall be funded from the interest and dividends derived from the
483	permanent funds created for the Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind pursuant to Section 12
484	of the Utah Enabling Act and distributed by the director of the School and Institutional Trust
485	Lands Administration under Section 53C-3-103.
486	Section 17. Section 53A-25b-401 is enacted to read:
487	Part 4. Employees
488	53A-25b-401. Educators exempt from Department of Human Resource
489	Management rules Collective bargaining agreement.
490	(1) Educators employed by the Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind are exempt

491	from mandatory compliance with rules of the Department of Human Resource Management.
492	(2) The board may enter into a collective bargaining agreement to establish
493	compensation and other personnel policies with educators employed by the Utah Schools for
494	the Deaf and the Blind to replace rules of the Department of Human Resource Management.
495	(3) A collective bargaining agreement made under Subsection (2) is subject to the same
496	requirements that are imposed on local school boards by Section 53A-3-411.
497	Section 18. Section 53A-25b-402 is enacted to read:
498	53A-25b-402. Annual salary adjustments for educators.
499	(1) Subject to future budget constraints, the Legislature shall annually appropriate
500	money to the board for the salary adjustments described in this section, including step and lane
501	changes.
502	(2) The board shall include in its annual budget request for the Utah Schools for the
503	Deaf and the Blind an amount of money sufficient to adjust educators' salaries as described in
504	Subsection (3) and fund step and lane changes.
505	(3) (a) The board shall determine the salary adjustment specified in Subsection (2) by:
506	(i) calculating a weighted average salary adjustment for nonadministrative licensed
507	staff adopted by the school districts of the state, with the average weighted by the number of
508	teachers in each school district; and
509	(ii) increasing the weighted average salary adjustment by 10% in any year in which
510	teachers of the Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind are not ranked in the top ten in 20-year
511	earnings when compared to earnings of teachers in the school districts of the state.
512	(b) In calculating a weighted average salary adjustment for nonadministrative licensed
513	staff adopted by the school districts of the state under Subsection (3)(a), the board shall exclude
514	educator salary adjustments provided pursuant to Section 53A-17a-153.
515	(4) From money appropriated to the board for salary adjustments, the board shall adjust
516	the salary schedule applicable to educators at the school each year.
517	Section 19. Section 53A-25b-501 is enacted to read:
518	Part 5. Utah State Instructional Materials Access Center
519	53A-25b-501. Instructional Materials Access Center Board to make rules.
520	(1) The Utah State Office of Education shall collaborate with the Utah Schools for the
521	Deaf and the Blind, school districts, and charter schools in establishing the Utah State

322	instructional Materials Access Center to provide students with print disabilities access to
523	instructional materials in alternate formats in a timely manner.
524	(2) The board shall make rules, in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah
525	Administrative Rulemaking Act, to:
526	(a) establish the Utah State Instructional Materials Access Center;
527	(b) define how the Educational Resource Center at the Utah Schools for the Deaf and
528	the Blind shall collaborate in the operation of the Utah State Instructional Materials Access
529	Center;
530	(c) specify procedures for the operation of the Utah State Instructional Materials
531	Access Center, including procedures to:
532	(i) identify students who qualify for instructional materials in alternate formats; and
533	(ii) distribute and store instructional materials in alternate formats;
534	(d) establish the contribution of school districts and charter schools towards the cost of
535	instructional materials in alternate formats; and
536	(e) require textbook publishers, as a condition of contract, to provide electronic file sets
537	in conformance with the National Instructional Materials Accessibility Standard.
538	Section 20. Section 63I-4-102 is amended to read:
539	63I-4-102. Definitions.
540	(1) (a) "Activity" means to provide a good or service.
541	(b) "Activity" includes to:
542	(i) manufacture a good or service;
543	(ii) process a good or service;
544	(iii) sell a good or service;
545	(iv) offer for sale a good or service;
546	(v) rent a good or service;
547	(vi) lease a good or service;
548	(vii) deliver a good or service;
549	(viii) distribute a good or service; or
550	(ix) advertise a good or service.
551	(2) (a) Except as provided in Subsection (2)(b), "agency" means:
552	(i) the state; or

553	(ii) an entity of the state including a department, office, division, authority,
554	commission, or board.
555	(b) "Agency" does not include:
556	(i) the Legislature;
557	(ii) an entity or agency of the Legislature;
558	(iii) the state auditor;
559	(iv) the state treasurer;
560	(v) the Office of the Attorney General;
561	(vi) the Dairy Commission created in Title 4, Chapter 22, Dairy Promotion Act;
562	(vii) the Heber Valley Railroad Authority created in Title 9, Chapter 3, Part 3, Heber
563	Valley Historic Railroad Authority;
564	(viii) the Utah Science Center Authority created in Title 9, Chapter 3, Part 4, Utah
565	Science Center Authority;
566	(ix) the Utah Housing Corporation created in Title 9, Chapter 4, Part 9, Utah Housing
567	Corporation Act;
568	(x) the Utah State Fair Corporation created in Title 9, Chapter 4, Part 11, Utah State
569	Fair Corporation Act;
570	(xi) the Workers' Compensation Fund created in Title 31A, Chapter 33, Workers'
571	Compensation Fund;
572	(xii) the Utah State Retirement Office created in Title 49, Chapter 11, Utah State
573	Retirement Systems Administration;
574	[(xviii)] (xiii) a charter school chartered by the State Charter School Board under Title
575	53A, Chapter 1a, Part 5, The Utah Charter Schools Act[-];
576	(xiv) the Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind created in Title 53A, Chapter 25b,
577	Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind;
578	[(xvi)] (xv) an institution of higher education as defined in Section 53B-3-102;
579	[(xiii)] (xvi) the School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration created in Title
580	53C, Chapter 1, Part 2, School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration;
581	[(xiv)] (xvii) the Utah Communications Agency Network created in Title 63C, Chapter
582	7, Utah Communications Agency Network Act; or
583	[(xv)] (xviii) the Utah Capital Investment Corporation created in Title 63M, Chapter 1,

364	Part 12, Otan Venture Capital Enhancement Act _[5] .
585	[(xvii) a school established under Title 53A, Chapter 25, Schools for the Deaf and
586	Blind; or]
587	(3) "Agency head" means the chief administrative officer of an agency.
588	(4) "Board" means the Privatization Policy Board created in Section 63I-4-201.
589	(5) "Commercial activity" means to engage in an activity that can be obtained in whole
590	or in part from a private enterprise.
591	(6) "Local entity" means:
592	(a) a political subdivision of the state, including a:
593	(i) county;
594	(ii) city;
595	(iii) town;
596	(iv) local school district;
597	(v) local district; or
598	(vi) special service district;
599	(b) an agency of an entity described in this Subsection (6), including a department,
600	office, division, authority, commission, or board; and
601	(c) an entity created by an interlocal cooperative agreement under Title 11, Chapter 13
602	Interlocal Cooperation Act, between two or more entities described in this Subsection (6).
603	(7) "Private enterprise" means a person that for profit:
604	(a) manufactures a good or service;
605	(b) processes a good or service;
606	(c) sells a good or service;
607	(d) offers for sale a good or service;
608	(e) rents a good or service;
609	(f) leases a good or service;
610	(g) delivers a good or service;
611	(h) distributes a good or service; or
612	(i) advertises a good or service.
613	(8) "Privatize" means that an activity engaged in by an agency is transferred so that a
614	private enterprise engages in the activity including a transfer by:

615	(a) contract;
616	(b) transfer of property; or
617	(c) another arrangement.
618	Section 21. Section 67-19-12 is amended to read:
619	67-19-12. State pay plans Applicability of section Exemptions Duties of the
620	executive director.
621	(1) (a) This section, and the rules adopted by the department to implement this section
622	apply to each career and noncareer employee not specifically exempted under Subsection (2).
623	(b) If not exempted under Subsection (2), an employee is considered to be in classified
624	service.
625	(2) The following employees are exempt from this section:
626	(a) members of the Legislature and legislative employees;
627	(b) members of the judiciary and judicial employees;
628	(c) elected members of the executive branch and their direct staff who meet career
629	service exempt criteria as defined in Subsection 67-19-15(1)(k);
630	(d) [certificated] employees of the State Board of Education who are licensed by the
631	State Board of Education;
632	(e) officers, faculty, and other employees of state institutions of higher education;
633	(f) employees in any position that is determined by statute to be exempt from this
634	Subsection (2);
635	(g) employees in the Office of the Attorney General;
636	(h) department heads and other persons appointed by the governor pursuant to statute;
637	(i) employees of the Department of Community and Culture whose positions are
638	designated as executive/professional positions by the executive director of the Department of
639	Community and Culture with the concurrence of the executive director;
640	(j) employees of the Governor's Office of Economic Development whose positions are
641	designated as executive/professional positions by the director of the office; [and]
642	(k) employees of the Medical Education Council[-]; and
643	(l) educators as defined by Section 53A-25b-102 who are employed by the Utah
644	Schools for the Deaf and the Blind.
645	(3) (a) The executive director shall prepare maintain, and revise a position

classification plan for each employee position not exempted under Subsection (2) to provide equal pay for equal work.

- (b) Classification of positions shall be based upon similarity of duties performed and responsibilities assumed, so that the same job requirements and the same salary range may be applied equitably to each position in the same class.
- (c) The executive director shall allocate or reallocate the position of each employee in classified service to one of the classes in the classification plan.
- (d) (i) The department shall conduct periodic studies and desk audits to provide that the classification plan remains reasonably current and reflects the duties and responsibilities assigned to and performed by employees.
- (ii) The executive director shall determine the schedule for studies and desk audits after considering factors such as changes in duties and responsibilities of positions or agency reorganizations.
- (4) (a) With the approval of the governor, the executive director shall develop and adopt pay plans for each position in classified service.
- (b) The executive director shall design each pay plan to achieve, to the degree that funds permit, comparability of state salary ranges to salary ranges used by private enterprise and other public employment for similar work.
 - (c) The executive director shall adhere to the following in developing each pay plan:
- (i) Each pay plan shall consist of sufficient salary ranges to permit adequate salary differential among the various classes of positions in the classification plan.
- (ii) (A) The executive director shall assign each class of positions in the classification plan to a salary range and shall set the width of the salary range to reflect the normal growth and productivity potential of employees in that class.
- (B) The width of the ranges need not be uniform for all classes of positions in the plan, but each range shall contain merit steps in increments of 2.75% salary increases.
 - (iii) (A) The executive director shall issue rules for the administration of pay plans.
- (B) The rules may provide for exceptional performance increases and for a program of incentive awards for cost-saving suggestions and other commendable acts of employees.
 - (C) The executive director shall issue rules providing for salary adjustments.
- (iv) Merit step increases shall be granted, if funds are available, to employees who

- receive a rating of "successful" or higher in an annual evaluation of their productivity and performance.
 - (v) By October 31 of each year, the executive director shall submit market comparability adjustments to the director of the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget for consideration to be included as part of the affected agency's base budgets.
 - (vi) By October 31 of each year, the executive director shall recommend a compensation package to the governor.
 - (vii) (A) Adjustments shall incorporate the results of a total compensation market survey of salary ranges and benefits of a reasonable cross section of comparable benchmark positions in private and public employment in the state.
 - (B) The survey may also study comparable unusual positions requiring recruitment in other states.
 - (C) The executive director may cooperate with other public and private employers in conducting the survey.
 - (viii) (A) The executive director shall establish criteria to assure the adequacy and accuracy of the survey and shall use methods and techniques similar to and consistent with those used in private sector surveys.
 - (B) Except as provided under Section 67-19-12.3, the survey shall include a reasonable cross section of employers.
 - (C) The executive director may cooperate with or participate in any survey conducted by other public and private employers.
 - (D) The executive director shall obtain information for the purpose of constructing the survey from the Division of Workforce Information and Payment Services and shall include employer name, number of persons employed by the employer, employer contact information and job titles, county code, and salary if available.
 - (E) The department shall acquire and protect the needed records in compliance with the provisions of Section 35A-4-312.
 - (ix) The establishing of a salary range is a nondelegable activity and is not appealable under the grievance procedures of Sections 67-19-30 through 67-19-32, Title 67, Chapter 19a, Grievance and Appeal Procedures, or otherwise.
 - (x) The governor shall:

708	(A) consider salary adjustments recommended under Subsection (4)(c)(vi) in preparing
709	the executive budget and shall recommend the method of distributing the adjustments;
710	(B) submit compensation recommendations to the Legislature; and
711	(C) support the recommendation with schedules indicating the cost to individual
712	departments and the source of funds.
713	(xi) If funding is approved by the Legislature in a general appropriations act, the
714	adjustments take effect on the July 1 following the enactment.
715	(5) (a) The executive director shall regularly evaluate the total compensation program
716	of state employees in the classified service.
717	(b) The department shall determine if employee benefits are comparable to those
718	offered by other private and public employers using information from:
719	(i) the most recent edition of the Employee Benefits Survey Data conducted by the U.S
720	Chamber of Commerce Research Center; or
721	(ii) the most recent edition of a nationally recognized benefits survey.
722	(6) (a) The executive director shall submit proposals for a state employee
723	compensation plan to the governor by October 31 of each year, setting forth findings and
724	recommendations affecting employee compensation.
725	(b) The governor shall consider the executive director's proposals in preparing budget
726	recommendations for the Legislature.
727	(c) The governor's budget proposals to the Legislature shall include a specific
728	recommendation on employee compensation.
729	Section 22. Section 67-19-15 is amended to read:
730	67-19-15. Career service Exempt positions Schedules for civil service
731	positions Coverage of career service provisions.
732	(1) Except as otherwise provided by law or by rules and regulations established for
733	federally aided programs, the following positions are exempt from the career service provisions
734	of this chapter:
735	(a) the governor, members of the Legislature, and all other elected state officers,
736	designated as Schedule AA;
737	(b) appointed executives and board or commission executives enumerated in Section

67-22-2, and commissioners designated as Schedule AB;

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739	(c) all employees and officers in the office and at the residence of the governor,
740	designated as Schedule AC;
741	(d) employees who are in a confidential relationship to an agency head or
742	commissioner and who report directly to, and are supervised by, a department head,
743	commissioner, or deputy director of an agency or its equivalent, designated as Schedule AD;
744	(e) unskilled employees in positions requiring little or no specialized skill or training,
745	designated as Schedule AE;
746	(f) part-time professional noncareer persons who are paid for any form of medical and
747	other professional service and who are not engaged in the performance of administrative duties,
748	designated as Schedule AF;
749	(g) employees in the Office of the Attorney General who are under their own career
750	service pay plan under Sections 67-5-7 through 67-5-13, designated as Schedule AG;
751	(h) teaching staff of all state institutions [and patients and inmates employed in state
752	institutions], including educators as defined by Section 53A-25b-102 who are employed by the
753	<u>Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind</u> , designated as Schedule AH;
754	(i) persons appointed to a position vacated by an employee who has a right to return
755	under federal or state law or policy, designated as Schedule AI;
756	(j) noncareer employees compensated for their services on a seasonal or contractual
757	basis who are hired for limited periods of less than nine consecutive months or who are
758	employed on less than 1/2 time basis, designated as Schedule AJ;
759	(k) those employees in a personal and confidential relationship to elected officials,
760	designated as Schedule AK;
761	(l) employees appointed to perform work of a limited duration not exceeding two years
762	or to perform work with time-limited funding, designated as Schedule AL;

Governor's Office of Economic Development whose positions are designated as

(m) employees of the Department of Community and Culture whose positions are

designated as executive/professional positions by the executive director of the Department of

Community and Culture with the concurrence of the executive director, and employees of the

executive/professional positions by the director of the office, designated as Schedule AM;

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- (p) all judges in the judiciary, designated as Schedule AP;
 (q) members of state and local boards and councils appointed by the governor and governing bodies of agencies, other local officials serving in an ex officio capacity, officers, faculty, and other employees of state universities and other state institutions of higher education, designated as Schedule AQ;
 (r) employees who make statewide policy, designated as Schedule AR;
 (s) any other employee whose appointment is required by statute to be career service
 - (s) any other employee whose appointment is required by statute to be career service exempt, designated as Schedule AS; [and]
 - (t) employees of the Department of Technology Services, designated as executive/professional positions by the executive director of the Department of Technology Services with the concurrence of the executive director, designated as Schedule AT[-]; and
 - (u) patients and inmates employed in state institutions, designated as Schedule AU.
 - (2) The civil service shall consist of two schedules as follows:
 - (a) (i) Schedule A is the schedule consisting of positions exempted by Subsection (1).
 - (ii) Removal from any appointive position under Schedule A, unless otherwise regulated by statute, is at the pleasure of the appointing officers without regard to tenure.
 - (b) Schedule B is the competitive career service schedule, consisting of all positions filled through competitive selection procedures as defined by the executive director.
 - (3) (a) The executive director, after consultation with the heads of concerned executive branch departments and agencies and with the approval of the governor, shall allocate positions to the appropriate schedules under this section.
 - (b) Agency heads shall make requests and obtain approval from the executive director before changing the schedule assignment and tenure rights of any position.
 - (c) Unless the executive director's decision is reversed by the governor, when the executive director denies an agency's request, the executive director's decision is final.
 - (4) (a) Compensation for employees of the Legislature shall be established by the directors of the legislative offices in accordance with Section 36-12-7.
 - (b) Compensation for employees of the judiciary shall be established by the state court administrator in accordance with Section 78A-2-107.
 - (c) Compensation for officers, faculty, and other employees of state universities and institutions of higher education shall be established as provided in Title 53B, Chapters 1,

801	Governance, Powers, Rights, and Responsibilities, and 2, Institutions of Higher Education.
802	(d) Unless otherwise provided by law, compensation for all other Schedule A
803	employees shall be established by their appointing authorities, within ranges approved by, and
804	after consultation with the executive director of the Department of Human Resource
805	Management.
806	(5) All employees of the Office of State Auditor, the Office of State Treasurer, and
807	employees who are not exempt under this section are covered by the career service provisions
808	of this chapter.
809	Section 23. Repealer.
810	This bill repeals:
811	Section 53A-25-101, School for the Deaf.
812	Section 53A-25-102, Corporate powers.
813	Section 53A-25-103, Purposes Qualifications of pupils.
814	Section 53A-25-104, Governance and control by board of trustees Initial
815	placement of children Individualized education programs.
816	Section 53A-25-105, Meetings of board.
817	Section 53A-25-107, Board powers Bylaws Contracts with instructors
818	Religious and political doctrine.
819	Section 53A-25-108, Appointment of superintendent and treasurer.
820	Section 53A-25-109, Qualifications and duties of superintendent Removal.
821	Section 53A-25-110, Fiscal year.
822	Section 53A-25-111, Annual salary adjustments for school employees Benefits.
823	Section 53A-25-201, School for the Blind.
824	Section 53A-25-202, Corporate powers.
825	Section 53A-25-203, Governance and control by board of trustees Initial
826	placement of children Individualized education programs.
827	Section 53A-25-204, Subject to same laws as School for Deaf.
828	Section 53A-25-205, Purposes Qualifications of pupils.
829	Section 53A-25-206, Instruction of adults with visual impairments.
830	Section 53A-25-301, Establishment of council Membership.
831	Section 53A-25-302, Appointment and terms of council members Powers

832	Expenses.
833	Section 53A-25-303, Council meetings Officers.
834	Section 53A-25-304, Duties of council.
835	Section 53A-25-305, Dual sensory impairment disability education specialist.
836	Section 53A-25-306, Educational Enrichment Program for Hearing and Visually
837	Impaired Students Funding for the program.

H.B. 296 1st Sub. (Buff) - Schools for the Deaf and Blind Amendments

Fiscal Note

2009 General Session State of Utah

State Impact

Enactment of this bill will require an ongoing appropriation of \$490,000 to fund the Utah State Instructional Materials Access Center. The cost of an additional associate superintendent position, estimated at \$120,000 ongoing, is offset within the bill by the repeal of Utah Code Title 53A-25-108, which includes a treasurer position.

	2009	2010	2011	2009	2010	2011
	Approp.	Approp.	Approp.	Revenue	Revenue	Revenue
Uniform School Fund	\$0	\$490,000	\$490,000	20	\$0	\$0
Total	\$0	\$490,000	\$490,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
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Individual, Business and/or Local Impact

Enactment of this bill likely will not result in direct, measurable costs and/or benefits for individuals, businesses, or local governments.

2/24/2009, 12:58:53 PM, Lead Analyst: Lee, P.W.

Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst