



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
KA 'OIHANA HO'ONA'AUAO
P.O. BOX 2360
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

Date: 03/20/2023
Time: 03:00 PM
Location: CR 229 & Videoconference
Committee: Senate Education

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Keith T. Hayashi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: HB 0388, HD1 RELATING TO EDUCATION.

Purpose of Bill: Adopts the National Instructional Materials Accessibility Standard. Requires the department of education to obtain instructional materials in accessible formats for eligible students. Effective 7/1/3000. (HD1)

Department's Position:

The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) supports the intent of HB 388, HD1, and respectfully offers comments related to the Department obtaining instructional materials in accessible formats for eligible students.

Providing appropriate instructional materials for all students, including accessibility to appropriate instructional materials for students with disabilities is a high priority of the Department.

The Department has adopted the National Instructional Materials Accessibility Standard (NIMAS) and coordinates with National Instructional Materials Access Center (NIMAC) to provide accessible instructional materials for students with Individualized Education Programs (IEP).

Currently, schools work with their District Resource Teacher of the Visually Impaired to receive the needed materials in accessible formats whether it is large print, Braille, tactile maps, or graphs etc. For all other accessible materials such as articles, handouts, posters, etc., the Resource Teachers of the Visually Impaired will produce the materials.

In the spirit of continuous refinement, student personalization, and innovation with instructional materials, the Department respectfully requests an amendment to Section 2, page 6, line 3 to read:

"(2) If the needed instructional materials cannot be obtained in the eligible student's appropriate accessible format, the department may ~~[shall]~~ enter into a written contract . .

."

Requesting an amendment to Section 2, page 6, following line 11 to insert

"(3) If the needed instructional materials cannot be obtained in the eligible student's appropriate accessible format due to being new or innovative start-up instructional materials or a Hawaii-based publisher, the Department may purchase materials as a pilot for up to one calendar year."

The Department has created guidance with a Curriculum Management System and Instructional Materials Approval Process. This process is for the Department's State reviews, Complex Area reviews, and school reviews of high-quality instructional materials. The materials review criteria include equity and civil rights expectations during the materials review or purchase consideration, including whether the needs of students with disabilities are addressed. All instructional materials must comply with Federal, State, Hawaii State Board of Education, and Department rules, policies, and laws, which strictly prohibit any form of discrimination based upon a protected class. There are also additional criteria for digital materials. The Department is committed to ensuring all students have access to high quality instructional materials.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on HB 388, HD1.

Testimony of James Gashel
Submitted for National Federation of the Blind of Hawaii
Committee on Education (EDU)
Hawaii State Senate
Thirty-second Legislature, regular session of 2023
March 20, 2023, 3:00 PM, hearing on HB388 H.D. 1

Good afternoon chair, vice chair, and members. I am James Gashel, representing the National Federation of the Blind (NFB) of Hawaii, proudly supporting HB388 H.D. 1, and offering amendments, on behalf of people with print disabilities and especially our blind and visually impaired keiki in elementary and secondary school. Thank you for scheduling this hearing.

HB388 is all about books, but it's actually about much more. Let's say equal access to learning. I think when you can see ok you just assume the books, handouts, and other things you need will just be made available when your teachers want you to read them; no real fuss, no struggle. These are just what everybody expects; nothing at all unusual.

Imagine if you were blind or couldn't see enough to read standard print. You would find that the normal expectations don't apply to you as they do to others. This is not as it should be. We need HB388 with amendments to pass to make changes.

Right now our state law has only one requirement about accessible instructional materials, which is far out of date. This is confirmed by the House Education Committee report, quoting: "Your Committee further finds that existing state law pertaining to instructional materials for exceptional children requires publishers to meet provisions that are now out of date and undesirable due to advances in technology. Your Committee believes that a revision is needed to harmonize and integrate the existing federal law and practice with state law, including allowing for technological advancements that make more instructional materials available in appropriate accessible formats for exceptional children."

As passed by the House, with the H.D. 1 amendment, HB388 covers textbooks but not the numerous other materials used for instruction. This is the point of the two amendments suggested by the NFB of Hawaii. Our amendments make clear that all instructional materials, teacher handouts, posters, articles, maps, graphics, digital, and audio/visual materials, really anything presented to students for learning, must be accessible to eligible students as defined in this bill.

Changing the instructional materials law on behalf of people with print disabilities, especially our blind and visually impaired keiki, is long overdue. Making these changes will send an important message to the Department of Education, emphasizing that the legislature cares about access for these students. We know there are many in the Department of Education who do care too, but they really need your support.

Mahalo for considering HB388 H.D. 1 and the amendments we're suggesting. Members

of the NFB of Hawaii strongly support this bill and hope you will too. Everybody wins, there are absolutely no losers, when we share the value of equal access to learning.

Suggested Senate amendments to HB388 H.D. 1

Offered by National Federation of the Blind of Hawaii

Submitted to EDU on 3-16-23

Purpose: to amend the definition of “print instructional materials” to include accessible digital materials specified in SB108; and to specify the types of instructional materials required to be identified in an eligible student’s individualized education program

In section 2, subsection (a), definition of “print instructional materials,” (page 4, line 12), after “classroom,” insert a comma and the following: “including:

(1) Digital instructional materials obtained in an appropriate accessible format for an eligible student; or

(2) Materials that can be provided by the National Instructional Materials Access Center in valid National Instructional Materials Accessibility format.”

In SECTION 2, subsection (g), paragraph (2), subparagraph (A), (page 8, lines 4 and 5) strike all that appears and insert in lieu thereof: “The print instructional materials and other materials to be used by the students without disabilities, including but not limited to textbooks, articles, handouts, posters, bulletin boards, maps, charts, graphics, audio-visual presentations, digital instructional materials, and all other printed materials available to students in elementary and secondary classrooms;”.

Explanation:

The first amendment preserves the definition of “print instructional materials,” to conform to the corresponding federal definition of the same term, as requested by the Department of Education and reflected in the H.D.1 amendments. The additional language taken from SB108, clarifies that digital instructional materials are included. As compared to the H.D.1 amendment, this clarification will better ensure correct and consistent application of both state and federal laws.

The second amendment adds language to section 2, subsection (g), stating requirements for an eligible student’s individualized education program (IEP). The amendment specifies both “print instructional materials,” and other instructional materials to be identified in the student’s IEP, including, but not limited to, textbooks, articles, handouts, posters, bulletin boards, maps, charts, graphics, audio-visual presentations, digital instructional materials, and all other printed materials available to students in elementary and secondary classrooms.

This clarifies the scope of HB388 to encompass both print and other instructional materials. Textbooks aside, the other materials listed are unquestionably used in classrooms throughout the state. Failing to identify materials, other than print instructional materials, as in HB388 H.D.1,

will imply a lesser obligation to make these materials accessible if the bill is passed as is. In approving the amendment to identify both print and other instructional materials, HB388 as revised will best ensure consistency with federal education and nondiscrimination laws relating to students with disabilities.

HB-388-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/19/2023 2:48:43 PM

Testimony for EDU on 3/20/2023 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tabatha Mitchell	Testifying for National Organization of Parents of Blind Children Hawaii Representative	Support	In Person

Comments:

New 388HD1

Aloha Education Committee members,

I am submitting testimony to express my extreme desire for support of HB388 H.D.1. and the amendments requested by the National Federation of the Blind.

I am a parent of a blind child and a representative of other parents throughout Hawaii that are raising blind keiki. I serve our community as a representative of Hawaii on the board of the National Organization of Parents of Blind Children where I support parents throughout all of our Hawaiian islands.

My daughter is blind. She reads & writes with Braille. Printed pages and posters throughout her classrooms are nothing short of invisible to her. She is unable to use standard printed textbooks and other classroom materials due to early onset childhood blindness caused by a rare disease that she inherited. What happened to my daughter, could happen to any child being born.

Of our 5 children, she is the only one that is blind; but, she is an honor student just like her brother & sisters before her. As it should be, she attends the same public school as her siblings. Like her siblings, as a HS Jr., she is very busy building her resume for competitive college applications.

My daughter's path to being an honor student that happens to be blind has been fraught with challenges. Way more complicated than the life of her sighted siblings and her sighted peers. Braille baby board books were non-existent at our public library & local bookstores. I essentially had to leave my career in pharmaceutical development & research in order to have enough time to be able to learn Braille to be able to make Braille books with tactile materials to be able to teach my daughter. The strain on my brain was immense.

Over the years, that strain extended as she progressed through school. All too often, we had to supplement or completely create & provide accessible instructional materials so my daughter could learn the material being taught. From posters on the classroom walls to quick handouts given out by substitutes in the classroom, the depth & breadth that parents of blind keiki have to provide at home through their own ingenuity & creativity is truly unbelievable.

When our very young daughter that was blind was learning to brush her own teeth as a toddler, we learned a crucial lesson in parenting a blind child... She was just as capable of doing the same things as her brother & sisters AS LONG AS and only if she could receive instruction "in her language". And her preferred language was clearly the language of touch, which meant she needed hands-on training with actual tools/materials very similar to on-the-job training.

As she grew older that meant Braille stickers on our light switches & bathtubs instead of printed words. We had to push for hands-on examples/materials & tactile diagrams in the classroom. Things she can touch. It is a necessity. It is not a "nice to have" or "good to do". It is a crucial necessity. It is how all of our keiki that are blind intake information and learn the skills necessary to be contributing members of our society.

My blind daughter is going to college soon. I have this same desire for all of our blind keiki in Hawaii. Parents and their blind keiki struggle to get the instructional materials that they need in their classrooms. My daughter alone has gone without access to numerous books in a tactile format that her sighted peers had available.

Please recognize this crucial need for materials that are accessible for blind students and help us ensure that our blind keiki throughout Hawaii receive an education that is equitable to their sighted peers. Please support HB 388 H.D.1. with the amendments proposed by the National Federation of the Blind.

HB-388-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/19/2023 1:59:14 PM

Testimony for EDU on 3/20/2023 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Emerie Mitchell-Butler	Individual	Support	In Person

Comments:

Testimony of Emerie Mitchell-Butler

Committee on Education (EDU)

Hawaii State Senate

Thirty-second Legislature, regular session of 2023

March 20, 2023, 3:00 PM, hearing on HB388 H.D. 1

Good afternoon chair, vice chair, and members. I am Emerie Mitchell-Butler, testifying in support of HB388 with amendments from the National Federation of the Blind of Hawaii. I am a blind student at Kalaheo High School and a member of the National Federation of the Blind of Hawaii. This bill, relating to accessible instructional materials, is extremely important and relevant to me.

As a sighted person taking a high school class, you would enter the class and receive all materials in the format that you can read. You'll even get the textbook you'll use all year on the first day of class. But I am not sighted. I am a blind junior at Kalaheo High School, and this year, I decided to take Advanced Placement Biology, as many others at my school have done. I arrived in class the first day of school; the other students got their print volumes, but I got nothing. In AP Biology, specifically, my peers read many chapters which were all supplemented by diagrams, charts, and graphs. I did not receive my book until January 2023, just four months before the AP exam is scheduled (May 10th, 2023). My peers will have had over nine months to prepare using their textbook, while I will only have four months. This is not only a question of my right to learn along with my peers, but also a question of dollars and cents. My inability to pass the AP Exam could cost me hundreds of dollars I could have otherwise saved.

In addition to AP Biology, I also didn't get my trigonometry / analytic geometry book until second semester. Furthermore, over my high school career, I never received a textbook for chemistry, physics, or Spanish, among others. I also didn't get my textbook in braille for AP World History. I only got an electronic version, which did not have any tactile maps that would have made learning the geography portion of the curriculum much easier. These shortcomings

are not the fault of any one person, and the reasons are varied. Rather, this is a symptom of a broken system which this bill aims to help remedy.

The current law in Hawaii is outdated. It requires textbook publishers to provide an electronic file on an ASCII disk to the school system so the textbooks can be produced. Just as ASCII disks are obsolete, the current law is obsolete. There is a system in place in which the school system requires the publisher to provide a current electronic file to the American Printing House for the Blind. Our state does use this system. Regardless of that, our state law has never been updated to repeal the computer ascii disk requirement and adopt the National Instructional Materials standard as made a state option under the federal Individuals with Disabilities Improvement Act of 2004. Something is wrong with the current law. It needs to be changed to get our students with print disabilities the instructional materials they need to be successful in the classroom. This is the point of HB388.

This bill is also not only about textbooks. It originally pertained to all instructional materials. It is obvious to anyone who steps foot in a modern classroom that textbooks only make up one piece of a vast educational landscape. A student might learn by being exposed to posters on classroom walls, or reading online articles. They might use online educational tools, such as classroom games or some kind of self-paced learning platform. These pieces of education are also necessary for my complete education. However, some services contracted by the education system are not accessible to a screen reader, which is a piece of software used by a blind person to access a computer. The posters on the walls aren't always described, or even mentioned at all. The supplementary books on the shelves that any student can check out aren't always available to me. Please support the amendments put forth by the National Federation of the Blind of Hawaii, so that every student can use every material that every other student can use. I don't want to have to spend time after school asking my teacher questions, if the answer is on the wall or on the shelf already.

Also consider the success of me and other students. If we are well educated with all the materials we need, I think we'll be more likely to be productive members of the workforce when we grow up. Many of the classes I didn't receive materials for, received materials late, or had to fight very hard for materials, are classes that are required or highly recommended for college admission. While higher education isn't the path for everyone, it generally increases wages over a person's life, and makes it easier for them to get a job they want.

Thank you for considering this bill. There is no reason HB388 shouldn't be passed, as it benefits everyone. I ask that you please support passage of this bill, and please amend it as the National Federation of the Blind of Hawaii wishes.

Emerie Mitchell-Butler

Brandon Young

3/18/2023

Committee on Education (EDU)

Hawaii State Senate

Thirty-second Legislature, regular session of 2023

March 20, 2023, 3:00 PM, hearing on HB388 H.D. 1

Dear Chair and other committee members,

My name is Brandon Young, and I am a member of the National Federation of the Blind of Hawaii. I am submitting testimony in favor of HB 388 HD2. This bill is very important in getting accessible materials for blind and visually impaired students in our Department of Education. The current language is well overdue for updating and the education of students who are blind and visually impaired should be taken seriously here in Hawaii.

As a blind student in Hawaii, textbooks often much longer to be transcribed into braille. Our current law uses language of hardware that does not exist anymore in the area of technology. However, our blind and visually impaired students are still being left behind when it comes to getting their textbooks in a timely manner. This causes our blind students to fall behind their other students. I would hope that you and your colleagues take the time to consider this bill. Blind students in Hawaii should have the same opportunities as their sighted peers do. This is not possible if the blind students must wait several months to receive their textbooks in a manner that they can access them. Our Department of Education is currently doing a disservice to those blind and visually impaired students. I want to thank you for taking the time to schedule our bill in front of your committee. I would again wish that your committee pass this bill forward so that we can help the many blind and visually impaired students in Hawaii.

Testimony of Virgil Stinnett

Committee on Education (EDU)

Hawaii State Senate

Thirty-second Legislature, regular session of 2023

March 20, 2023, 3:00 PM, hearing on HB388 H.D. 1

Good afternoon chair, vice chair, and members. My name is Virgil Stinnett, a blind businessman and president of the National Federation of the blind of Hawai'i, proudly supporting HB388 H.D. 1, with amendments offered by the National Federation of the Blind of Hawaii. mahalo for holding this hearing.

I stand in strong support of the testimony submitted by the NFB of Hawai'i. HB388 H.D. 1 is an important update with amendments offered by the NFB of Hawai'i. Our blind and low vision keiki suffer when their material is not in the format or at the same time as their classmates. This is essential for their equal education and development. We must take seriously the issues to remove limitations and give every opportunity available to our blind and low vision students, offering all we can to ensure their success in life.

Mahalo for your time and serious consideration to pass HB388 H.D. 1 with amendments by the NFB of Hawai'i into law., Virgil Stinnett, President NFB of Hawai'i

HB-388-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/18/2023 9:54:25 PM

Testimony for EDU on 3/20/2023 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Stan Young	Testifying for Hawaii State committee of Blind Vendors	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Considering today that most educational materials are now prepared digitally, it is easier to have educational materials available in the digital format, which is an accessible format for the blind or visually impaired. So, it is easier to be able to present educational materials in an accessible format so that it can be available for the blind. To deny the blind and visually impaired such educational materials is pure discrimination, violating the civil rights of the blind or visually impaired.

HB-388-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/18/2023 2:18:42 PM

Testimony for EDU on 3/20/2023 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Clifford Miyashiro	Testifying for Hoopono	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Sirs,

I strongly support passing this HB388 bill, including amendments.

Also, passing bill HB388 will improve livelyhood greatly today

and for every future lives that will be facing disabilities.

Thank you very much for supporting our blind and disabled community,

Clifford Miyashiro , blind community

HB-388-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/19/2023 1:08:02 PM

Testimony for EDU on 3/20/2023 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
katlyn vogl	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Textbooks make knowledge available to everyone, by not providing student with necessary materials it hinders that access, hinders their education. Everyone deserves the same opportunity to receive education, and that is hard to achieve without blind students having access to braille textbooks and other textile graphics. Learning should be equal access for all and we should do everything we can to support our students, the future leaders of our society.

HB-388-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/19/2023 1:05:46 PM

Testimony for EDU on 3/20/2023 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ann Lemke	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is ann Lemke, Ph.d. And I am a retired blind professional person. Blind children and youth need timely and full access to accessible textbooks and instructional materials required for their classes in a manner comparable to their sighted peers. At the present time, this level of access is feasible and achievable. Our teachers and administrators should be able to have high expectations for all of their students. How we prepare our young people prepares them or holds them back for a lifetime. My parents, teachers, professors and later my employers always communicated their high expectations for me. Will we do the same for the blind and visually-impaired youth of Hawaii?

HB-388-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/19/2023 12:54:10 PM

Testimony for EDU on 3/20/2023 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Claudio	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I one hundred percent support on why blind students should have assessable materials, especially for school.

Testimony of Donald Sakamoto
Committee on Education (EDU)
Hawaii State Senate
Thirty-second Legislature, regular session of 2023
March 20, 2023, 3:00 PM, hearing on HB388 H.D. 1

Good afternoon chair, vice chair, and members. I am Donald Sakamoto , a member of the National Federation of the Blind (NFB) of Hawaii, in full support of HB388 H.D.1 especially, for those individuals with print disabilities and our blind and visually impaired children .

HB388 allows a chance for all individuals that are children who are blind or visually impaired in our schools to access the same printed materials such as books, handouts, and other things equally with ease as the same with their sighted classmates.

The time is for our state to prepare now in having these materials available in place. Famous “by failing to prepare, you are preparing to fail” by Benjamin Franklin.

Mahalo for considering HB388 H.D.1 with the amendments that my organization are suggesting in the bill, and let’s prepare to do the right thing and “Go For Broke” and approve this bill to proceed on.

HB-388-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/19/2023 12:26:08 PM

Testimony for EDU on 3/20/2023 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Eliea Mitchell-Butler	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, my name is Eliea Mitchell-Butler, and I have to say, as an older sister, I am very disappointed that Emerie has to ask her fellow classmates to read her work sometimes. It is not her classmates' responsibility to read to her; she is not stupid. She is not given accessible materials 100%, such as braille textbooks with tactile graphics, which holds her back in her education. This is unacceptable, knowing that eme is an honor roll student with a very advanced brain. Her future opportunities depend on her highschool transcript, and by not providing these materials, she struggles because she feels bad for asking people to help her do basic things she could do very well on her own. She has been raised to do things independently, but in this state, she can't thrive independently. That's why I think this bill should be passed.

Thank you for your time.

HB-388-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/19/2023 1:39:08 PM

Testimony for EDU on 3/20/2023 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Caleb	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

While the United States claims to be an active supporter of people with disabilities, we simply pick and choose who we want to support. There are countless students with visual and audio impairments that don't have the resources they need in order to complete daily tasks, that able people expect of everyone. Braille and physical materials can completely change the way blind and deaf people are able to learn. And it only benefits them to support this bill. The United States talks a lot about equality, and not providing support to all people is a clear sign of unjust treatment.

HB-388-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/19/2023 1:47:09 PM

Testimony for EDU on 3/20/2023 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Erie Mitchell	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support this bill and the NFB amendments, my youngest sister is blind and have worked with additional blind kids in Daycare and summer camps. I know first hand that blind kids can and are just as capable as their sighted peers as long as their instructional learning materials are accessible.

Testimony of Katie Keim

Committee on Education (EDU)

Hawaii State Senate

Thirty-second Legislature, regular session of 2023

March 20, 2023, 3:00 PM, hearing on HB388 H.D. 1

Good afternoon chair, vice chair, and members. My name is Katie Keim, a blind professional and leader in the NFB of Hawai'i. I am proudly supporting HB388 H.D. 1, with amendments offered by the National Federation of the Blind of Hawaii.

Mahalo for taking the time to hear my testimony and seriously consider supporting this important bill. I stand in support of the testimony submitted by the NFB of Hawai'i.

HB388 H.D. 1 is life saving for our keiki, it leads to their ability to strive to their highest learning and development. Please pass into law HB388 H.D. 1 with the amendments recommended by the NFB of Hawai'i. this will be a step in the right direction to ensure our blind and visually impaired keiki are given the best opportunity for their material to be equally accessible at the same time as their peers in elementary and secondary school. It is essential for their successful development, a strong education and support in their career aspirations. Ultimately a solid educational path leading to their life filled with hope, skills and a background to attain their dreams. Please ensure we get rid of limitations, giving our keki's equal access to their education.

Mahalo for considering and passing HB388 H.D. 1 with the amendments suggested by the National Federation of the blind of Hawai'i. I strongly support this bill and hope you will vote yes to support equal access to learning for all children.

Testimony of Hoku Burrows

Committee on Education (EDU)

Hawaii State Senate

Thirty-second Legislature, regular session of 2023

March 20, 2023, 3:00 PM, hearing on HB388 H.D. 1

Good afternoon chair, vice chair, and members. I am Hoku Burrows, proudly supporting HB388 H.D. 1, with amendments offered by the National Federation of the Blind of Hawaii. mahalo for holding this hearing.

Why would we consider leaving barriers because of out-of-date laws limiting our blind and low vision keiki. Give our children the best we can. It is a simple answer to give our keiki what format they need for their highest opportunity of learning. I stand in strong support of the testimony submitted by the National Federation of the Blind of Hawai'i.

Mahalo nui loa for your consideration and time today regarding HB388 H.D. 1 and our blind and low vision Keiki.

HB-388-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/19/2023 2:18:42 PM

Testimony for EDU on 3/20/2023 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Landon Van Geem	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

One of my good friends in Hawaii is blind and has always struggled in school in Hawaii because they don't have access to the resources everyone else has. I think the playing field needs to be leveled out for people dealing with a condition they had no choice over. There should be more help and access for people with disabilities and blindness in schools period.

HB-388-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/19/2023 2:19:49 PM

Testimony for EDU on 3/20/2023 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Stephan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As someone who has a degenerative eye disease that runs in the family I would hate to think any of my family or future family would not have access to reading materials for their education. Everyone should have the right to an education and should not have to fear that their eyesight would be a hindrance of this.

HB-388-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/19/2023 2:42:59 PM

Testimony for EDU on 3/20/2023 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Davan Pignon	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

textbooks are my number one source of learning. They have helped me in every single one of my classes, and have taught me anything from whole lessons, to facts, as well as helping me with problem questions and answers. Every person should have the right to have access to this way of learning, especially when it is so helpful.

HB-388-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/19/2023 1:56:10 PM

Testimony for EDU on 3/20/2023 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Maria Vargas	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Blind students deserve the same accessibility in education as everyone else. I would not be able to do schoolwork if I didn't have textbooks or had to have someone read my textbook for me.

HB-388-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/19/2023 3:04:29 PM

Testimony for EDU on 3/20/2023 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rachel McDulin	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Textbooks are fundamental to education and are key to success in the classroom. If you do not have a text book how are you expected to excel in the class. Equal opportunity to learn and educate yourself should be fundamental.