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*TO Com 8:40*

**Suggested amendments to SB 164**

**Sec. 11**

1. The Office shall establish and maintain a program for persons who are deaf or hard of hearing.

2. Within this program, the Office may provide the following services to persons who are deaf or hard of hearing:

- a) Advocacy in the areas of:
  - b) Elementary, secondary and post-secondary education
  - c) Educational support services
  - d) State judicial systems
  - e) Vocational Rehabilitation
  - f) Total communication access through use of interpreters;

3) Information & Referral to all state and local government agencies, public safety enforcement agencies, drug and alcohol rehabilitation programs, and legal aid programs;

4) Instruction in skills required for independent living;

5) Deaf Awareness to the general public;