



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE OF SPECIAL EDUCATION AND REHABILITATIVE SERVICES

AUG 12 1997

Jed I. Oliver
Attorney at Law
4916 Westview Drive
Austin, Texas 78731

Dear Mr. Oliver:

This is in response to your letter written to Secretary of Education Richard W. Riley dated June 11, 1997. In your letter, you assert that as a lawyer representing individuals with disabilities and their parents, you are an "interested entity," as described in section 607(d)(1) of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), and therefore request that you receive on a quarterly basis copies of the reports issued pursuant to section 607(d) of IDEA.

Section 607(d)(1) of IDEA reads:

The Secretary shall, on a quarterly basis, publish in the Federal Register, and widely disseminate to interested entities through various additional forms of communication, a list of correspondence from the Department of Education received by individuals during the previous quarter that describes the interpretations of the Department of Education of this Act or the regulations implemented pursuant to this Act.

The Department does not interpret this statutory provision as Conferring on every interested individual or organization the right to receive through individual mailings the quarterly reports referenced in section 607(d) of IDEA. In accordance with section 607(d)(1), this quarterly report will be published in the Federal Register which is available to the public. We also anticipate that this quarterly report will be posted on the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (OSERS) web page. The OSERS web site is www.ed.gov/offices/OSERS/. For further information about the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) and the IDEA, click on the OSEP link.

In addition, the Department is planning to disseminate the quarterly report described in section 607(d) of IDEA to those entities that currently receive copies of letters of policy clarification on a quarterly basis. At present, letters of policy clarification that OSEP issues are widely disseminated on a quarterly basis to numerous entities, including State departments of education, protection and advocacy agencies, parent training centers, independent living centers, and Members

of Congress. Generally, these entities have the capacity to disseminate information that this Office distributes to them to their constituencies, and we fully expect that these entities will make available upon request copies of the quarterly reports described in section 607(d)(1) of the IDEA. We also plan to share this information with commercial reporting services that publish information regarding the education of disabled students.

We appreciate your continued interest in the education of disabled students.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas Hehir".

Thomas Hehir
Director
Office of Special Education
Programs.

CC: Ms. Jill Gray .
Texas Education Agency .