An Act authorizing the Board of Regents of The University of Texas System to acquire by donation the facilities of the Houston Speech and Hearing Center, a Texas nonprofit corporation of Houston, Harris County, Texas, and to establish in The University of Texas Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences at Houston a division to be known as the "Division of Communicative Disorders"; and declaring an emergency.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

Section 1. The Board of Regents of The University of Texas System is hereby authorized to acquire by donation the facilities of the Houston Speech and Hearing Center, a Texas nonprofit corporation of Houston, Harris County, Texas, all of which are located within the Texas Medical Center, including a leasehold interest in land. The Board of Regents is further authorized to execute any and all agreements necessary to carry out the purpose and intent of this Act.

Sec. 2. If and when such center is accepted, there shall be established within The University of Texas Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences at Houston a division which shall be known as the "Division of Communicative Disorders" for the purpose of observing, testing, analyzing, diagnosing, and treating those persons afflicted with hearing and speech abnormalities, defects, and afflictions and as a center for research studies and training relating to speech and hearing afflictions, abnormalities, and defects, and for all programs incidental thereto. The facilities of the Division of Communicative Disorders shall be available to all persons and institutions, subject only to necessary limitations with respect to space, funding, and qualifications of such users.

Sec. 3. The Board of Regents of The University of Texas System may accept gifts and grants from any source in aid of the conduct and operation of the Division of Communicative Disorders.

Sec. 4. The importance of this legislation and the crowded condition of the calendars in both Houses create an emergency and an imperative public necessity that the Constitutional Rule requiring bills to be read on three several days in each House be suspended, and the Rule is hereby suspended; and that this Act take effect and be in force from and after its passage, and it is so enacted.

Passed the Senate on May 13, 1971: Yeas 31, Nays 0; passed the House on May 26, 1971: Yeas 149, Nays 0.

