
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 838

Session of
1981

INTRODUCED BY MRKONIC, RYAN, BRANDT, SALVATORE, POTT, WARGO, EARLEY, IRVIS, SEVENTY, HORGOS, OLASZ, SHUPNIK, DUFFY, ITKIN, CALTAGIRONE, COCHRAN, TRELLO, W. D. HUTCHINSON, MULLEN, DeWEESE, ARTY, McINTYRE, GRAY, J. D. WILLIAMS, MOWERY, LEVIN, FLECK, GRUPPO, PISTELLA, WAMBACH, BELFANTI, HASAY, PETRARCA, DeMEDIO, LASHINGER, NAHILL, McMONAGLE, CORNELL, PUNT, WACHOB, MANDERINO, HAYES, COSLETT, DAWIDA, E. H. SMITH, MICHLOVIC, CLARK, RICHARDSON, TADDONIO, SPENCER, HEISER, FRAZIER, MARMION, TELEK, MANMILLER, CESSAR, GRABOWSKI, PENDLETON, COHEN, MACKOWSKI, KOLTER, DOMBROWSKI, GEORGE, HOFFEL, PETRONE, RYBAK, COLE, WOZNIAK, GAMBLE, COWELL, McCALL, KOWALYSHYN, BELOFF, EVANS, FISCHER, SPITZ, ALDEN, FREIND, ARMSTRONG, BROWN, GREENFIELD, WIGGINS, DEAL, STEWART, LAUGHLIN, COLAFELLA, DIETZ, F. E. TAYLOR, VAN HORNE, DAIKELER, SAURMAN, KLINGAMAN, SIEMINSKI, RASCO, BELARDI, LEWIS, SWEET, BORSKI, RIEGER, DONATUCCI, WESTON, PETERSON, SERAFINI, PITTS, MISCEVICH AND MILLER, MARCH 10, 1981

SENATOR GEKAS, JUDICIARY, IN SENATE, AS AMENDED,
SEPTEMBER 14, 1981

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) of the
2 Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, providing for
3 interpreters for certain deaf persons in civil proceedings.

4 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
5 hereby enacts as follows:

6 Section 1. Title 42, act of November 25, 1970 (P.L.707,
7 No.230), known as the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, is
8 amended by adding a section to read:

9 § 7103. Interpreters for the deaf.

10 (a) Civil proceedings.--In any civil proceeding in which a

1 party is deaf the court may appoint an interpreter to assist
2 said party throughout the trial proceedings. ~~Disposition~~ <—
3 IMPOSITION of costs shall be in discretion of the court AND MAY <—
4 BE IMPOSED UPON THE COUNTY.

5 (b) Oath.--The interpreter shall swear or affirm that he
6 will make a true interpretation to the deaf person and that he
7 will repeat IN THE SPOKEN ENGLISH LANGUAGE the statements of the <—
8 deaf person to the best of his ability.

9 (c) Definitions.--As used in this section the following
10 words shall have the meanings given to them in this subsection:

11 "Deaf." Persons who are deaf or whose hearing is so impaired
12 that they are unable to understand or communicate the spoken
13 English language.

14 "Interpreter." A person qualified and trained to translate
15 for or communicate with deaf persons. Any person certified by
16 the National or Local Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf or
17 similar registry shall be considered qualified for the purposes
18 of this section.

19 Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.