

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 796

Session of
1981

INTRODUCED BY ZEMPRELLI, SCANLON AND ROSS, MAY 11, 1981

AS AMENDED ON THIRD CONSIDERATION, DECEMBER 15, 1981

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 2 (Administrative Law and Procedure) of the
2 Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, providing interpreters
3 for deaf persons in administrative proceedings.

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

6 Section 1. Chapter 5 of Title 2, act of November 25, 1970
7 (P.L.707, No.230), known as the Pennsylvania Consolidated
8 Statutes, is amended by adding a subchapter to read:

CHAPTER 5

PRACTICE AND PROCEDURE

* * *

SUBCHAPTER CINTERPRETERS FOR THE DEAFSec.561. Interpreters for the deaf.§ 561. Interpreters for the deaf.

17 (a) Proceedings before certain agencies.--In any proceeding
18 before a Commonwealth agency, an executive agency or an

1 independent agency in which a party is deaf the agency shall
2 appoint an interpreter to assist said party throughout the
3 proceeding.

4 (b) Oath.--The interpreter shall swear or affirm that he
5 will make a true interpretation to the deaf person and that he
6 will repeat the statements of the deaf person to the best of his
7 ability.

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

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

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

18 Section 2. This act shall take effect ~~immediately~~ IN 60
19 DAYS.

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