
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1567 Session of
2021

INTRODUCED BY D. MILLER, N. NELSON, SCHLOSSBERG, SANCHEZ,
DELLOSO AND HOHENSTEIN, AUGUST 31, 2021

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE, AUGUST 31, 2021

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of July 2, 2004 (P.L.492, No.57), entitled "An
2 act providing for State registration of individuals providing
3 sign language interpreting and transliterating services to
4 individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing; and imposing
5 duties on the Office for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing in the
6 Department of Labor and Industry," further providing for
7 State registration required and for provisional registration.

8 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
9 hereby enacts as follows:

10 Section 1. Section 4(b)(2), (4) and (5) of the act of July
11 2, 2004 (P.L.492, No.57), known as the Sign Language Interpreter
12 and Transliterator State Registration Act, are amended and the
13 subsection is amended by adding a paragraph to read:

14 Section 4. State registration required.

15 * * *

16 (b) Exceptions.--The following individuals are exempt from
17 the State registration requirements of subsection (a):

18 * * *

19 [(2) An individual engaged in sign language interpreting
20 or transliterating during an emergency, when a delay in

1 obtaining a State-registered interpreter or State-registered
2 transliterator might lead to injury or loss to the individual
3 requiring the services.]

4 * * *

5 (3.1) For the purposes of paragraph (3), the term
6 "medical or mental health setting" shall mean "health care
7 facility," as that term is defined in section 103 of the act
8 of July 19, 1979 (P.L.130, No.48), known as the Health Care
9 Facilities Act.

10 (4) An individual who [is certified by the National
11 Association of the Deaf or the Registry of Interpreters for
12 the Deaf] meets the requirements necessary to obtain
13 registration from outside the Commonwealth who provides
14 interpreting or transliterating services in the Commonwealth
15 for a period not exceeding 14 days each calendar year.

16 [(5) An individual engaged in interpreting or
17 transliterating at the request of an individual who is deaf
18 or hard of hearing if the individual informs the client that
19 the individual is not registered under this act.]

20 * * *

21 Section 2. Section 5.1(a)(2)(iii) and (c) of the act are
22 amended to read:

23 Section 5.1. Provisional registration.

24 (a) Application.--

25 * * *

26 (2) The applicant must submit to the office all of the
27 following:

28 * * *

29 (iii) Proof that within five years prior to the date
30 of application for provisional registration the applicant

1 has graduated from an interpreter education program with
2 an associate degree or higher from an accredited
3 institution of higher education or has met the
4 Alternative Pathway education requirements of the
5 Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, Inc.

6 * * *

7 (c) Renewal.--An individual may annually renew a provisional
8 registration by submitting to the office the information
9 required under subsection (a) along with proof of completion of
10 [at least 20 hours of] professional development and mentorship
11 with a State-registered interpreter or transliterator, approved
12 by the office and any applicable fees. The office may approve
13 only two consecutive renewals.

14 * * *

15 Section 3. This act shall take effect in 60 days.