



General Assembly

January Session, 2007

Raised Bill No. 7109

LCO No. 4011

04011_____HS_

Referred to Committee on Human Services

Introduced by:

(HS)

**AN ACT CONCERNING CERTIFICATION STANDARDS FOR
PERSONS PROVIDING INTERPRETER SERVICES.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 46a-33a of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2007*):

3 (a) For the purposes of this section:

4 (1) "Interpreting" means the translating or transliterating of English
5 concepts to [specialized vocabulary] a language concept used by a
6 person who is deaf or hard of hearing or means the translating of a
7 deaf or hard of hearing person's [specialized vocabulary] language
8 concept to English concepts. [Specialized vocabulary] Language
9 concepts include, but are not limited to, the use of [American sign
10 language] American Sign Language, English-based sign language,
11 cued speech, oral transliterating and information received tactually;

12 (2) "Legal setting" means any criminal or civil action involving [the
13 Superior Court or its agents] a court of competent jurisdiction, any
14 investigation conducted by a duly authorized law enforcement agency,

15 employment related hearings and appointments requiring the
16 presence of an attorney;

17 (3) "Medical setting" means medical related situations including
18 mental health treatment, psychological evaluations, substance abuse
19 treatment, crisis intervention and appointments or treatment requiring
20 the presence of a doctor, [or] nurse or other health care professional;
21 and

22 (4) "Educational setting" means a school or other educational
23 institution, including elementary, high school and post-graduation
24 schools where interpretive services are provided to a student.

25 (b) Commencing October 1, 1998, and annually thereafter, all
26 persons providing interpreting services shall register with the
27 Commission on the Deaf and Hearing Impaired. Such registration shall
28 be on a form prescribed or furnished by the commission and shall
29 include the registrant's name, address, phone number, place of
30 employment as interpreter and interpreter certification or credentials.
31 Commencing July 1, 2001, and annually thereafter, the commission
32 shall issue identification cards for those who register in accordance
33 with this section.

34 (c) [On and after July 1, 2001, no] No person shall provide
35 interpreting services unless such person is registered with the
36 commission according to the provisions of this section and (1) has
37 passed the National Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf written
38 generalist test [and] or the National Association of the Deaf-National
39 Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf Certification Knowledge
40 Examination, holds a level three certification provided by the National
41 Association of the Deaf, [and] documents the achievement of two
42 continuing education units per year for a maximum of five years of
43 commission-approved training, and on or before the fifth anniversary
44 of having passed the National Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf
45 written generalist test or the National Association of the Deaf-National
46 Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf Certification Knowledge

47 Examination, has passed the National Registry of Interpreters for the
48 Deaf performance examination or the National Association of the
49 Deaf-National Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf National Interpreter
50 Certification examination, (2) has passed the National Registry of
51 Interpreters for the Deaf written generalist test or the National
52 Association of the Deaf-National Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf
53 Certification Knowledge Examination and is a graduate of an
54 accredited interpreter training program and documents the
55 achievement of two continuing education units per year for a
56 maximum of five years of commission-approved training, and on or
57 before the fifth anniversary of having passed the National Registry of
58 Interpreters for the Deaf written generalist test or the National
59 Association of the Deaf-National Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf
60 Certification Knowledge Examination, has passed the National
61 Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf performance examination or the
62 National Association of the Deaf-National Registry of Interpreters for
63 the Deaf National Interpreter Certification examination, (3) holds a
64 level four or higher certification [or higher] from the National
65 Association of the Deaf, (4) holds certification by the National Registry
66 of Interpreters for the Deaf, (5) for situations requiring an oral
67 interpreter only, holds oral certification from the National Registry of
68 Interpreters for the Deaf, (6) for situations requiring a cued speech
69 transliterator only, holds certification from the National Training,
70 Evaluation and Certification Unit and has passed the National Registry
71 of Interpreters for the Deaf written generalist test, [or] (7) holds a
72 reverse skills certificate or is a certified deaf interpreter under the
73 National Registry of Interpreters of the Deaf, or (8) holds a National
74 Association of the Deaf-National Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf
75 National Interpreting Certificate.

76 (d) [On and after July 1, 2001, no] No person shall provide
77 interpreting services in a medical setting unless such person is
78 registered with the commission according to the provisions of this
79 section and holds (1) a comprehensive skills certificate from the
80 National Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, (2) a certificate of

81 interpretation or a certificate of transliteration from the National
82 Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, (3) a level four or higher
83 certification from the National Association of the Deaf, (4) a reverse
84 skills certificate or is a certified deaf interpreter under the National
85 Registry of Interpreters of the Deaf, (5) for situations requiring an oral
86 interpreter only, oral certification from the National Registry of
87 Interpreters for the Deaf, [or] (6) for situations requiring a cued speech
88 transliterator only, certification from the National Training, Evaluation
89 and Certification Unit and has passed the National Registry of
90 Interpreters for the Deaf written generalist test, or (7) holds a National
91 Association of the Deaf-National Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf
92 National Interpreting Certificate.

93 (e) No person shall provide interpreting services in a legal setting
94 unless such person is registered with the commission according to the
95 provisions of this section and holds (1) a comprehensive skills
96 certificate from the National Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, (2) a
97 certificate of interpretation and a certificate of transliteration from the
98 National Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, (3) a level five
99 certification from the National Association of the Deaf, (4) a reverse
100 skills certificate or is a certified deaf interpreter under the National
101 Registry of Interpreters of the Deaf, (5) for situations requiring an oral
102 interpreter only, oral certification from the National Registry of
103 Interpreters for the Deaf, [or] (6) for situations requiring a cued speech
104 transliterator only, certification from the National Training, Evaluation
105 and Certification Unit and has passed the National Registry of
106 Interpreters for the Deaf written generalist test, or (7) holds a National
107 Association of the Deaf-National Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf
108 National Interpreting Certificate.

109 (f) The requirements of this section shall apply to persons who
110 receive compensation for the provision of interpreting services and
111 include those who provide interpreting services as part of their job
112 duties.

113 (g) The provisions of subsection (c) of this section shall not apply to
114 any person providing interpreting services in an educational setting
115 until July 1, 2003.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2007	46a-33a

Statement of Purpose:

To ensure that the state's interpreter certification standards are in conformity with current national standards.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]