



Communication
Advocacy
Network

Human Services Committee
Tuesday, March 4, 2008

CM Boryslawskyj's Testimony
In support of H.B. No. 5797
"An Act Concerning the Availability of Qualified Interpreter Services"

Good morning, Co-Chairs, Senator Harris and Representative Villano and Human Services Committee members,
Thank you for the opportunity to testify on behalf of Communication Advocacy Network. This bill will make a big difference to every deaf person's life if passed. If suppose you are arrested in foreign country and you could speak their native language, what would you do as if being placed in jail? You would imagine that what you will do in my shoes here in this country you speak ASL.

For long time we try our best not to get into trouble with the law and order because of the language barrier.

This bill includes (2) *"no custodial interrogation of any deaf suspect shall be conducted without a qualified interpreter, unless such suspect after being appraised of his or her constitutional rights, knowingly and voluntarily waives his or her right to an interpreter."* This clause is very important part of this bill as long as it should remain.

I believe this state of CT is first to make this bill possible to protect our basic rights of our communication access to the law and order. We encourage you all to support the bill.

Again thank you.

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