
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5105

State of Washington

58th Legislature

2003 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on Education (originally sponsored by Senators Fraser, B. Sheldon, Carlson, McAuliffe and Kohl-Welles)

READ FIRST TIME 02/27/03.

1 AN ACT Relating to educational interpreters; and creating new
2 sections.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that the Washington
5 professional educator standards board has advisory responsibilities on
6 certain educational issues, including certification issues. The
7 legislature further finds that there is currently no requirement for
8 educational interpreters for deaf and hard of hearing students to be
9 certified or to meet standardized qualifications or competencies.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** By November 30, 2004, the Washington
11 professional educator standards board shall conduct a comprehensive
12 review and analysis of the following options and make recommendations
13 to the governor, the legislature, the superintendent of public
14 instruction, and the state board of education regarding the following
15 options:

16 (1) Requiring national or state certification for all educational
17 interpreters for deaf students and hard of hearing students;

- 1 (2) Designating educational interpreters as educational staff
2 associates;
- 3 (3) Requiring the state board of education to establish
4 competencies for educational interpreters;
- 5 (4) Requiring the office of the superintendent of public
6 instruction, in cooperation with institutions of higher education that
7 have a deaf studies program, to provide a training program for
8 educational sign language interpreters. The goal of the training
9 program would be a four-year degree in educational interpreting. The
10 pilot program would be accessible to all areas of Washington through a
11 combination of interactive video conferences, online courses, and face-
12 to-face classes; and
- 13 (5) Any other option that the Washington professional educator
14 standards board deems viable to increase and maintain the quality and
15 availability of educational interpreters in a fiscally responsible
16 manner.

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