

**HB 2617 - H AMD 744**

By Representative Jenkins

**ADOPTED 02/17/2014**

1 On page 2, line 33, after "the state" strike ". When a state-  
2 certified" and insert ", or be nationally certified by the  
3 certification commission for health care interpreters or the national  
4 board for certification of medical interpreters. When a nationally-  
5 certified, state-certified,"

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7 On page 3, after line 11, insert the following:

8 "(8) The department of social and health services, the health care  
9 authority, the department of labor and industries, and the department  
10 of enterprise services may not impose reimbursement rates or  
11 obligations established through collective bargaining under RCW  
12 41.56.510 in contracts with entities that do not provide interpreter  
13 services through language access providers as defined in RCW  
14 41.56.030(10)."

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16 On page 4, line 21, after "ethics," strike "and make  
17 recommendations" and insert "the certification standards of other  
18 states, and national certification standards, and make recommendations  
19 for improving state certifications and authorizations"

EFFECT: The amendment makes the following changes:

- Authorizes procurement of language access providers who are nationally certified, instead of only authorizing procurement of such providers who are certified or authorized by the state.
- Prohibits the Department of Social and Health Services, the Health Care Authority, the Department of Labor and Industries, and the Department of Enterprise Services from imposing reimbursement rates or obligations established through collective bargaining with language access providers in contracts with entities that do not provide interpreter services through such language access providers.

- Requires the Spoken Language Advisory Group to evaluate national certification standards and certification standards of other states, in addition to state standards, and to make recommendations for improving state certification and authorization of spoken language interpreters.

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