

This morning at a legislative summary meeting HF1812 passed with the Interpreter Services Quality Initiative with the following language. The bill is awaiting the Governor's signature.

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[[Article17 Sec. 2. 223 [ccrhf1812c] H.F. No. 1812, Conference Committee Report - 2007-2008th Legislative Session (2007-2008)]]

223.15 Sec. 2. [144.058] INTERPRETER SERVICES QUALITY INITIATIVE.

223.16 (a) The commissioner of health shall establish a voluntary statewide roster, and
223.17 develop a plan for a registry and certification process for interpreters who provide
223.18 high quality, spoken language health care interpreter services. The roster, registry, and
223.19 certification process shall be based on the findings and recommendations set forth by
223.20 the Interpreter Services Work Group required under Laws 2007, chapter 147, article
223.21 12, section 13.

223.22 (b) By January 1, 2009, the commissioner shall establish a roster of all available
223.23 interpreters to address access concerns, particularly in rural areas.

223.24 (c) By January 15, 2010, the commissioner shall:

223.25 (1) develop a plan for a registry of spoken language health care interpreters,
223.26 including:

223.27 (i) development of standards for registration that set forth educational requirements,
223.28 training requirements, demonstration of language proficiency and interpreting skills,
223.29 agreement to abide by a code of ethics, and a criminal background check;

223.30 (ii) recommendations for appropriate alternate requirements in languages for which
223.31 testing and training programs do not exist;

223.32 (iii) recommendations for appropriate fees; and

223.33 (iv) recommendations for establishing and maintaining the standards for inclusion
223.34 in the registry; and

(2) develop a plan for implementing a certification process 224.1 based on national
224.2 testing and certification processes for spoken language interpreters 12 months after the
224.3 establishment of a national certification process.
224.4 (d) The commissioner shall consult with the Interpreter Stakeholder Group of the
224.5 Upper Midwest Translators and Interpreters Association for advice on the standards
224.6 required to plan for the development of a registry and certification process.
224.7 (e) The commissioner shall charge an annual fee of \$50 to include an interpreter in
224.8 the roster. Fee revenue shall be deposited in the state government special revenue fund.
224.9 EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective the day following final enactment.

And the following funding:

260.20 Interpreter Services Quality Initiative. Of
260.21 the state government special revenue fund
260.22 appropriation, \$32,000 in fiscal year 2009 is
260.23 for the interpreter services quality initiative
260.24 under Minnesota Statutes, section 144.058