

JAN 23 1996  
STATE GOVERNMENT

HOUSE FILE 2095  
BY BRUNKHORST

Passed House, Date \_\_\_\_\_ Passed Senate, Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_  
Approved \_\_\_\_\_

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to interpreters for deaf and hard-of-hearing  
2 persons.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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*HF 2095*

1 Section 1. Section 622B.1, subsection 1, Code 1995, is  
2 amended by adding the following new paragraph:

3 NEW PARAGRAPH. ee. "Qualified interpreter" means an  
4 interpreter who is able to interpret effectively, accurately,  
5 and impartially, both receptively and expressively, using any  
6 necessary specialized vocabulary. An interpreter who is  
7 certified under the national evaluation system of the registry  
8 of interpreters for the deaf, by the national association of  
9 the deaf, or by quality assurance screening is a qualified  
10 interpreter.

11 Sec. 2. Section 622B.1, subsection 2, Code 1995, is  
12 amended to read as follows:

13 2. The supreme court, after consultation with the  
14 department of human rights, shall adopt rules governing the  
15 qualifications and compensation of interpreters appearing in a  
16 proceeding before a court, grand jury, or administrative  
17 agency under this chapter. However, an administrative agency  
18 which is subject to chapter 17A may adopt rules differing from  
19 those of the supreme court governing the qualifications and  
20 compensation of interpreters appearing in proceedings before  
21 that agency. Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection shall  
22 be consistent with the definition of "qualified interpreter"  
23 provided in subsection 1. The rules shall also provide that  
24 parties to a proceeding governed by this chapter may, upon  
25 agreement of the parties, waive requirements concerning the  
26 qualifications of an interpreter.

27 Sec. 3. Section 622B.4, Code 1995, is amended to read as  
28 follows:

29 622B.4 LIST.

30 The division of deaf services of the department of human  
31 rights shall prepare and continually update a listing of  
32 qualified and available interpreters. The courts and  
33 administrative agencies shall maintain a directory of  
34 qualified interpreters for deaf and hard-of-hearing persons as  
35 furnished by the department of human rights. The division of

1 deaf services shall maintain information on the qualifications  
2 of interpreters, ~~which information is confidential except to a~~  
3 ~~court, administrative agency, or interested parties to an~~  
4 ~~action using the services of an interpreter.~~

5 EXPLANATION

6 This bill defines "qualified interpreter" for purposes of  
7 chapter 622B concerning deaf and hard-of-hearing persons as an  
8 interpreter who can interpret effectively, accurately, and  
9 impartially. The definition provides that a qualified  
10 interpreter includes an interpreter who has received a  
11 certificate from the registry of interpreters for the deaf,  
12 the national association of the deaf, or quality assurance  
13 screening. The bill requires that rules adopted by the  
14 supreme court and administrative agencies be consistent with  
15 this definition and shall provide that the requirements can be  
16 waived by agreement of the parties to a proceeding governed by  
17 this chapter. The bill also provides that the division of  
18 deaf services' information on the qualifications of  
19 interpreters is not confidential.

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