

1) My concern with this bill is if you plan to use it as verification of skills and knowledge instead of certification, as an either/or situation. The interpreter has either a license or certification. Licensure, when used successfully, is on top of certification (RID/BEI). The problem in Oregon (and the whole country) is you have non-certified interpreters working where they should not be. Licensure without certification gives permission for bad behavior. If used correctly, licensure puts words other professionals use LICENSED attached to our certification.

2) You have such a small group of yet undetermined people making the rules. That is not wise. Whoever gets on the board makes the rules following their own bias & agenda. You need to outline the qualifications, rules, costs, and process beforehand. It would be unwise to support a blank piece of paper, we'll figure it out later kind of thing. You cant just have 7 people decide the rules for a whole profession. There has to be some standards in place before it's a law.

Thank you for considering my opinion. I have been a RID Certified ASL interpreter for 42 years. I feel we should be working on legislation to prohibit non-certified interpreters to be able to work as 'interpreters'. I feel that is the biggest hindrance to our profession. It drags down our reputation when non-certified, not qualified interpreters demonstrate unprofessional behavior in the workplace.

Thank you
Luanne Conner