

While I support the idea of this bill, and can see the benefits it would provide, I oppose it as it is currently written. Why has a provision been added to the bill to require the interpreters receive vaccines and testing recommended by the CDC? Why is there no language allowing them to decline these procedures if they object or are medically unable to comply? Physicians are not held to this same standard; why is this being made a condition of employment for the interpreters?

Medical decisions should happen between the patient and their doctor, not be mandated by the state in order to keep your livelihood.

Please remove this troublesome language or modify it to "recommend" vice "require." This bill is about removing barriers. Keeping the language as is potentially creates more barriers if the interpreter workforce is unwilling to comply.

Thank you.