

HB 2240 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Education

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Meeting Dates: 4/25

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Exempts health care providers employed or contracted by school districts, public charter schools, or education service districts from statutory requirement to work with registered health care interpreters when communicating with patients who prefer to communicate in language other than English. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

REVENUE: No revenue impact

HOUSE VOTE: Ayes, 52; Nays, 5; Excused, 3

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

House Bill 2359 (2021) made a number of changes to the state's health care interpreter system, including requiring health care providers to work with registered health care interpreters. The requirements enacted by House Bill 2359 (2021) apply to any individual licensed or certified by certain healthcare-related state boards, or any other person providing health care or receiving compensation for providing health care, who is reimbursed with public funds. Provisions of HB 2359 (2021) became operative on July 1, 2022 and September 1, 2022.

House Bill 2240 exempts school health care providers from providing registered health care interpretation to students who prefer to communicate in a language other than English.