

IN SENATE

Senate introducer's signature

The senators whose names are circled below wish to join me in the sponsorship of this proposal

S. -----
Senate

s20 Adams	s44 Farley	s58 Kennedy	s54 Nozzolio	s28 Serrano
s15 Addabbo	s02 Flanagan	s34 Klein	s53 O'Mara	s51 Seward
s55 Alesi	s08 Fuschillo	s26 Krueger	s37 Oppenheimer	s09 Skelos
s11 Avella	s59 Gallivan	s24 Lanza	s21 Parker	s14 Smith
s40 Ball	s12 Gianaris	s39 Larkin	s13 Peralta	s25 Squadron
s42 Bonacic	s22 Golden	s01 LaValle	s30 Perkins	s16 Stavisky
s46 Breslin	s47 Griffo	s52 Libous	s61 Ranzenhofer	s35 Stewart-
s38 Carlucci	s60 Grisanti	s45 Little	s48 Ritchie	Cousins
s50 DeFrancisco	s06 Hannon	s05 Marcellino	s33 Rivera	s49 Valesky
s32 Diaz	s36 Hassell-	s07 Martins	s56 Robach	s57 Young
s17 Dilan	Thompson	s62 Maziarz	s41 Saland	s03 Zeldin
s29 Duane	s10 Huntley	s43 McDonald	s19 Sampson	s27
s31 Espallat	s04 Johnson	s18 Montgomery	s23 Savino	

IN SENATE--Introduced by Sen

--read twice and ordered printed,
and when printed to be committed
to the Committee on

----- A.
Assembly

IN ASSEMBLY

Assembly introducer's signature

The Members of the Assembly whose names are circled below wish to join me in the multi-sponsorship of this proposal:

IN ASSEMBLY--Introduced by M. of A.

a049 Abbate	a107 Crouch	a095 Jaffee	a038 Miller, M.	a118 Russell
a092 Abinanti	a014 Curran	a057 Jeffries	a052 Millman	a144 Ryan
a105 Amedore	a063 Cusick	a135 Johns	a103 Molinaro	a012 Saladino
a084 Arroyo	a045 Cymbrowitz	a112 Jordan	a015 Montesano	a113 Sayward
a035 Aubry	a034 DenDekker	a099 Katz	a132 Morelle	a029 Scarborough
a124 Barclay	a081 Dinowitz	a074 Kavanagh	a039 Moya	a016 Schimel
a040 Barron	a114 Duprey	a065 Kellner	a003 Murray	a140 Schimminger
a082 Benedetto	a004 Englebright	a100 Kirwan	a037 Nolan	a145 Schroeder
a122 Blankenbush	a054 Espinal	a129 Kolb	a128 Oaks	a064 Silver
a055 Boyland	a071 Farrell	a025 Lancman	a069 O'Donnell	a027 Simanowitz
a008 Boyle	a123 Finch	a091 Latimer	a051 Ortiz	a036 Simotas
a026 Braunstein	a007 Fitzpatrick	a013 Lavine	a136 Palmesano	a146 Smardz
a044 Brennan	a137 Friend	a050 Lentol	a088 Paulin	a093 Spano
a116 Brindisi	a143 Gabryszak	a125 Lifton	a141 Peoples-	a079 Stevenson
a131 Bronson	a090 Galef	a072 Linares	Stokes	a011 Sweeney
a046 Brook-Krasny	a133 Gantt	a127 Lopez, P.	a058 Perry	a110 Tedisco
a147 Burling	a077 Gibson	a053 Lopez, V.	a087 Pretlow	a115 Tenny
a117 Butler	a149 Giglio	a001 Losquadro	a073 Quart	a002 Thiele
a101 Cahill	a066 Glick	a126 Lupardo	a021 Ra	a061 Titone
a096 Calhoun	a023 Goldfeder	a111 Magee	a097 Rabbitt	a031 Titus
a043 Camara	a150 Goodell	a120 Magnarelli	a009 Raia	a062 Tobacco
a106 Canestrari	a075 Gottfried	a059 Maisel	a006 Ramos	a041 Weinstein
a089 Castelli	a005 Graf	a060 Malliotakis	a134 Rellich	a020 Weisenberg
a086 Castro	a098 Gunther	a030 Markey	a109 Reilly	a024 Weprin
a138 Ceretto	a130 Hanna	a019 McDonough	a078 Rivera, J.	a070 Wright
a033 Clark	a139 Hawley	a104 McEneny	a080 Rivera, N.	a094 Zebrowski
a047 Colton	a083 Heastie	a017 McKevitt	a076 Rivera, P.	a148
a010 Conte	a028 Nevesi	a108 McLaughlin	a119 Roberts	
a032 Cook	a048 Hikind	a022 Meng	a056 Robinson	
a142 Corwin	a018 Hooper	a121 Miller, D.	a068 Rodriguez	
a085 Crespo	a042 Jacobs	a102 Miller, J.	a067 Rosenthal	

with M. of A. as co-sponsors

--read once and referred to the
Committee on

EDUCLA

(Relates to the licensing of sign
language interpreters and creates a
state board for sign language inter-
preting)

Ed L. sign lang. interpret.

AN ACT

to amend the education law, in
relation to the licensing of sign
language interpreters and creating a
state board for sign language inter-
preting

The People of the State of New
York, represented in Senate and
Assembly, do enact as follows:

1) Single House Bill (introduced and printed separately in either or both
houses). Uni-Bill (introduced simultaneously in both houses and printed as one
bill. Senate and Assembly introducer sign the same copy of the bill).

2) Circle names of co-sponsors and return to introduction clerk with 2 signed
copies of bill and 4 copies of memorandum in support (single house); or 4 signed
copies of bill and 8 copies of memorandum in support (uni-bill).

1 Section 1. The education law is amended by adding a new article 167 to
2 read as follows:

3 ARTICLE 167

4 SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETERS

5 Section 8800. Introduction.

6 8801. Definitions.

7 8802. Practice of sign language interpreting.

8 8803. State board for sign language interpreting.

9 8804. Requirements for a professional license.

10 8805. Exempt persons.

11 § 8800. Introduction. This article applies to the profession of sign
12 language interpreter. The general provisions for all professions
13 contained in article one hundred thirty of this title apply to this
14 article.

15 § 8801. Definitions. As used in this article:

16 (1) "Client" means a deaf or hard of hearing person for whom an inter-
17 preter provides sign language interpretation services.

18 (2) "Board" means the board for sign language interpreting.

19 § 8802. Practice of sign language interpreting. (1) Only a person
20 licensed or otherwise authorized under this article shall practice sign
21 language interpreting or use the title of sign language interpreter.

22 (2) No person may, for compensation, provide sign language interpreta-
23 tion services for a client unless the person is licensed by the depart-
24 ment.

25 § 8803. State board for sign language interpreting. (1) A state board
26 for sign language interpreting shall be appointed by the board of
27 regents on recommendation of the commissioner for the purpose of assist-
28 ing the board of regents and the department on matters of professional

1 licensing and professional conduct in accordance with section sixty-five
2 hundred eight of this title. The board shall consist of not less than
3 seven members who shall serve three year terms, one of whom shall be the
4 executive director of the office of professions or a designee of the
5 commissioner and the following six members who shall be nominated by the
6 governor and appointed with the advice and consent of the temporary
7 president of the senate and the speaker of the assembly:

8 (a) three deaf or hard of hearing individuals who are currently or
9 have previously been clients of a sign language interpreter, at least
10 one of whom is a graduate of a residential school for the deaf and at
11 least one of whom is a graduate of a private or public school that is
12 not a residential school for the deaf;

13 (b) two sign language interpreters who have been licensed under
14 section eight thousand eight hundred four of this article, at least one
15 of whom holds a renewable license; and

16 (c) one individual who is not deaf or hard of hearing and who has
17 obtained or represents an entity that has obtained sign language inter-
18 preter services for the benefit of another individual who is deaf or
19 hard of hearing.

20 (2) The board shall make recommendations to the department regarding
21 the promulgation of rules establishing a code of ethics that governs the
22 professional conduct of sign language interpreters licensed under this
23 article and shall promulgate rules establishing a process and criteria
24 for granting licensing exemptions under section eight thousand eight
25 hundred five of this article.

26 § 8804. Requirements for a professional license. To qualify for a
27 license as a sign language interpreter, an applicant shall fulfill the
28 following requirements:

1 (1) Renewable licenses. (a) The department shall grant a renewable
2 license as a sign language interpreter to an applicant who: (i) submits
3 an application on a form provided by the department;

4 (ii) pays a fee of one hundred forty dollars to the department for
5 admission to a department conducted examination and for an initial
6 license, a fee of seventy dollars for each reexamination, a fee of one
7 hundred fifteen dollars for an initial license for persons not requiring
8 admission to a department conducted examination, and a fee of one
9 hundred fifty-five dollars for each triennial registration period;

10 (iii) submits evidence satisfactory to the department that the appli-
11 cant has received a bachelor of arts or bachelor of science degree in
12 sign language interpretation or has received a certificate of completion
13 of an education and training program regarding interpretation; and

14 (iv) possesses a valid certification granted by the Registry of Inter-
15 preters for the Deaf, Inc., or its successor, or any valid certification
16 granted by any other organization that the department determines is
17 substantially equivalent to a certification granted by the Registry of
18 Interpreters for the Deaf, Inc.

19 (b) The department shall grant a renewable license as a sign language
20 interpreter to an applicant who: (i) submits an application on a form
21 provided by the department;

22 (ii) pays a fee of one hundred forty dollars to the department for
23 admission to a department conducted examination and for an initial
24 license, a fee of seventy dollars for each reexamination, a fee of one
25 hundred fifteen dollars for an initial license for persons not requiring
26 admission to a department conducted examination, and a fee of one
27 hundred fifty-five dollars for each triennial registration period;

1 (iii) possesses a valid certification granted by the Registry of
2 Interpreters for the Deaf, Inc., or its successor; and

3 (iv) provides satisfactory evidence to the department of a diagnosis
4 by a physician that the applicant is deaf or hard of hearing.

5 (c) The department shall grant a renewable license as a sign language
6 interpreter to an out-of-state applicant who: (i) submits an applica-
7 tion on a form provided by the department;

8 (ii) pays a fee of one hundred forty dollars to the department for
9 admission to a department conducted examination and for an initial
10 license, a fee of seventy dollars for each reexamination, a fee of one
11 hundred fifteen dollars for an initial license for persons not requiring
12 admission to a department conducted examination, and a fee of one
13 hundred fifty-five dollars for each triennial registration period; and

14 (iii) within twenty-four months after establishing residency in the
15 state, provides evidence satisfactory to the department that the appli-
16 cant possesses a valid certification granted by the Registry of Inter-
17 preters for the Deaf, Inc., or its successor, or any valid certification
18 granted by any other organization that the department determines is
19 substantially equivalent to a certification granted by the Registry of
20 Interpreters for the Deaf, Inc., or their successors, and that the
21 applicant possessed the certification at the time the applicant estab-
22 lishing residency in this state.

23 (2) Restricted licenses. (a) The department shall grant a restricted
24 license as a sign language interpreter to an applicant who: (i) submits
25 an application on a form provided by the department;

26 (ii) pays a fee of one hundred forty dollars to the department for
27 admission to a department conducted examination and for an initial
28 license, a fee of seventy dollars for each reexamination, a fee of one

1 hundred fifteen dollars for an initial license for persons not requiring
2 admission to a department conducted examination, and a fee of one
3 hundred fifty-five dollars for each triennial registration period;

4 (iii) submits evidence satisfactory to the department that the appli-
5 cant has received a bachelor of arts or bachelor of science degree in
6 sign language interpretation or has received a certificate of completion
7 of an education and training program regarding such interpretation;

8 (iv) submits evidence satisfactory to the department that the appli-
9 cant has passed the written examination administered by the Registry of
10 Interpreters for the Deaf, Inc., or its successor; and

11 (v) is an associate or student member of the Registry of Interpreters
12 for the Deaf, Inc., or its successor.

13 (b) The department shall grant a restricted license as a sign language
14 interpreter to an applicant who: (i) submits an application on a form
15 provided by the department;

16 (ii) pays a fee of one hundred forty dollars to the department for
17 admission to a department conducted examination and for an initial
18 license, a fee of seventy dollars for each reexamination, a fee of one
19 hundred fifteen dollars for an initial license for persons not requiring
20 admission to a department conducted examination, and a fee of one
21 hundred fifty-five dollars for each triennial registration period;

22 (iii) submits evidence satisfactory to the department that the appli-
23 cant has been diagnosed by a physician as deaf or hard of hearing;

24 (iv) submits evidence satisfactory to the department that the appli-
25 cant has completed eight hours of training sponsored by the Registry of
26 Interpreters for the Deaf, Inc., or its successor, on the role and func-
27 tion of deaf interpreters;

1 (v) submits evidence satisfactory to the department that the applicant
2 has completed eight hours of training sponsored by the Registry of
3 Interpreters for the Deaf, Inc., or its successor, on professional
4 ethics;

5 (vi) has obtained letters of recommendation from at least three indi-
6 viduals who have held national certification for at least five years and
7 who are members in good standing of the Registry of Interpreters for the
8 Deaf, Inc., or its successor, if the letters together document that the
9 applicant has completed at least forty hours of mentoring, including at
10 least twenty hours observing professional work and at least ten hours
11 observing certified deaf interpreters;

12 (vii) has completed at least forty hours of training consisting of
13 workshops sponsored by the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, Inc.,
14 or its successor;

15 (viii) is an associate or student member of the Registry of Interpret-
16 ers for the Deaf, Inc., or its successor; and

17 (ix) possesses a high school diploma or an equivalency degree.

18 (c) A restricted license granted pursuant to paragraph (a) or (b) of
19 subdivision two of this section may be renewed twice. A licensee shall
20 notify the department in writing within thirty days if such licensee's
21 certification or membership requirements are revoked or invalidated,
22 upon which the department shall revoke any restricted license issued
23 pursuant to paragraph (a) or (b) of subdivision two of this section.

24 § 8805. Exempt persons. (1) The department may grant a temporary
25 exemption to an individual who is not a resident of this state for a
26 period not to exceed twenty days if the individual is certified by the
27 Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, Inc., or its successor. The

1 department may not grant an individual more than two temporary
2 exemptions per year pursuant to this subdivision.

3 (2) The department may grant a temporary or permanent exemption to an
4 individual who is a resident of this state for a period specified by the
5 department.

6 § 2. This act shall take effect on the one hundred twentieth day after
7 it shall have become a law.