



State of Wisconsin
2017 - 2018 LEGISLATURE

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**ASSEMBLY SUBSTITUTE AMENDMENT 2,
TO ASSEMBLY BILL 589**

February 22, 2018 - Offered by Representative KLEEFISCH.

1 **AN ACT** *to repeal* 440.032 (3) (b) 3.; and *to amend* 440.032 (3) (a) 1. a., 440.032
2 (3) (b) (title), 440.032 (3) (b) 1. b. and 440.032 (5) of the statutes; **relating to:**
3 examinations and licensure of sign language interpreters and making an
4 appropriation.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This substitute amendment makes all of the following changes to the laws regulating sign language interpreters:

1. Authorizes the Department of Safety and Professional Services to grant a renewable sign language interpreter license to an individual who, in addition to satisfying other requirements under current law, is certified by the Board for Evaluation of Interpreters.

2. Provides that a restricted sign language interpreter license may be renewed indefinitely. Under current law, the restricted license may only be renewed twice. The substitute amendment makes this change retroactive to an individual holding a valid restricted license on August 31, 2017.

3. Authorizes DSPS to grant a restricted sign language interpreter license to an individual who, in addition to satisfying other requirements under current law, has at least passed the basic performance examination of the Board for Evaluation of Interpreters.

4. Requires the Department of Health Services to administer the performance examinations of the Board for Evaluation of Interpreters in Wisconsin.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

1 **SECTION 1.** 440.032 (3) (a) 1. a. of the statutes is amended to read:

2 440.032 (3) (a) 1. a. Any valid certification granted by the Registry of
3 Interpreters for the Deaf, Inc., or its successor, or the Board for Evaluation of
4 Interpreters, or its successor.

5 **SECTION 2.** 440.032 (3) (b) (title) of the statutes is amended to read:

6 440.032 (3) (b) (title) *Restricted renewable licenses.*

7 **SECTION 3.** 440.032 (3) (b) 1. b. of the statutes is amended to read:

8 440.032 (3) (b) 1. b. The applicant is verified by the Wisconsin interpreting and
9 transliterating assessment at level 2 or higher in both interpreting and
10 transliterating or has passed at least the basic performance examination of the
11 Board for Evaluation of Interpreters. The department of health services shall
12 administer in this state the performance examinations of the Board for Evaluation
13 of Interpreters, or its successor.

14 **SECTION 4.** 440.032 (3) (b) 3. of the statutes is repealed.

15 **SECTION 5.** 440.032 (5) of the statutes is amended to read:

16 440.032 (5) LICENSE RENEWAL. The renewal dates for licenses granted under
17 sub. (3) ~~(a)~~ are specified in s. 440.08 (2) (a) 68c. Renewal applications shall be
18 submitted to the department on a form provided by the department and shall include
19 the renewal fee determined by the department under s. 440.03 (9) (a) and evidence
20 satisfactory to the department that the person's certification or membership

1 specified in sub. (3) that is required for the license has not been revoked or
2 invalidated.

3 **SECTION 6. Nonstatutory provisions.**

4 (1) CONTRACT RELATING TO ADMINISTRATION OF EXAMINATIONS. No later than the
5 first day of the 4th month beginning after the effective date of this subsection, the
6 department of health services shall contract with the Board for Evaluation of
7 Interpreters, or its successor, for the department's administration of the
8 examinations of the Board for Evaluation of Interpreters in this state under section
9 440.032 (3) (b) 1. b. of the statutes.

10 (2) FUNDING REQUEST FOR ADMINISTRATION OF EXAMINATIONS.

11 (a) In the 2017-18 fiscal year, the department of health services may submit
12 a request to the joint committee on finance for a specified amount of additional
13 funding to cover one-time expenses related to the department's administration of the
14 examinations of the Board for Evaluation of Interpreters, or its successor, under
15 section 440.032 (3) (b) 1. b. of the statutes.

16 (b) If the cochairpersons of the joint committee on finance do not notify the
17 department of health services within 14 working days after the date of the submittal
18 of the request under paragraph (a) that the committee has scheduled a meeting to
19 review the request, the request is approved. If, within 14 working days after the date
20 of the submittal of the request, the cochairpersons of the joint committee on finance
21 notify the department of health services that the committee has scheduled a meeting
22 to review the request, the request is approved only upon express approval of the
23 committee, as submitted or as modified by the committee.

24 **SECTION 7. Fiscal changes.**

1 (1) FUNDING FOR ADMINISTRATION OF EXAMINATIONS. In the schedule under section
2 20.005 (3) of the statutes for the appropriation to the department of health services
3 under section 20.435 (1) (a) of the statutes, the dollar amount for fiscal year 2017-18
4 is increased by the amount approved by the joint committee on finance under
5 SECTION 6 (2) (b) of this act for the purpose specified in SECTION 6 (2) (a) of this act.

6 **SECTION 8. Initial applicability.**

7 (1) RESTRICTED LICENSE RENEWALS. The treatment of section 440.032 (3) (b) 3.
8 and (5) of the statutes first applies retroactively to an individual holding a valid
9 license under section 440.032 (3) (b) 1. or 2. of the statutes on August 31, 2017, and
10 the department of safety and professional services shall provide any such individual
11 whose license expired under section 440.032 (3) (b) 3., 2015 stats., on September 1,
12 2017, with a reasonable opportunity to renew that license.

13 (END)