1	State of Arkansas	As Engrossed: S2/28/13	
2	89th General Assembly	A Bill	
3	Regular Session, 2013		SENATE BILL 442
4			
5	By: Senator B. King		
6			
7		For An Act To Be Entitled	
8	AN ACT TO P	PROVIDE FOR LICENSED QUALIFIED INT	ΓERPRETERS
9	FOR INDIVID	DUALS WHO ARE DEAF, DEAFBLIND, HAR	RD OF
10	HEARING, OR	R ORAL DEAF; TO CREATE THE ADVISOR	RY BOARD
11	FOR INTERPR	RETERS BETWEEN HEARING INDIVIDUALS	S AND
12	INDIVIDUALS	S WHO ARE DEAF, DEAFBLIND, HARD OF	F HEARING,
13	AND ORAL DE	EAF; TO CREATE A FUND; AND FOR OTH	HER
14	PURPOSES.		
15			
16			
17		Subtitle	
18	TO PRO	OVIDE FOR LICENSED QUALIFIED	
19	INTER	PRETERS FOR INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE	
20	DEAF,	DEAFBLIND, HARD OF HEARING, OR O	RAL
21	DEAF.		
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23			
24	BE IT ENACTED BY THE GE	ENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF A	RKANSAS:
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26	SECTION 1. Arkan	nsas Code Title 19, Chapter 6, Sub	ochapter 8, is amended
27	to add an additional se	ection to read as follows:	
28	19-6-819. Interp	oreters between Hearing Individual	ls and Individuals who
29	are Deaf, Deafblind, Ha	ard of Hearing, or Oral Deaf Fund	<u>•</u>
30	(a) There is cre	eated on the books of the Treasure	er of State, the
31	Auditor of State, and t	the Chief Fiscal Officer of the St	tate a special revenue
32	fund to be known as the	e "Interpreters between Hearing In	ndividuals and
33	Individuals who are Dea	af, Deafblind, Hard of Hearing, on	r Oral Deaf Fund".
34	<u>(b)(1) All money</u>	rs collected under § 20-14-801 et	seq. shall be
35	deposited into the Stat	te Treasury to the credit of the i	fund as special
36	revenues.		

1	(2) The fund also shall consist of any other revenues authorized
2	by law.
3	(c) The fund shall be used by the Department of Health to pay costs
4	related to the Advisory Board for Interpreters between Hearing Individuals
5	and Individuals who are Deaf, Deafblind, Hard of Hearing, or Oral Deaf and
6	the licensure of licensed qualified interpreters under § 20-14-801 et seq.
7	
8	SECTION 2. Arkansas Code Title 20, Chapter 14, is amended to add an
9	additional subchapter to read as follows:
10	Subchapter 8 - Interpreters between Hearing Individuals and
11	Individuals who are Deaf, Deafblind, Hard of Hearing, or Oral Deaf.
12	
13	20-14-801. Findings.
14	(a) The General Assembly finds that:
15	(1)(A) The practice of interpreting affects the public health,
16	safety, and welfare and civic, economic, social, academic, and recreational
17	aspects of life.
18	(B) Therefore, the practice of interpreting should be
19	subject to licensure and regulation to protect the public's interest;
20	(2) Individuals who are deaf, deafblind, hard of hearing, or
21	oral deaf, individuals with disabilities who use special techniques in order
22	to communicate, and individuals whose primary language is sign language have
23	a civil right to effective communication;
24	(3) Individuals with hearing disabilities and those with whom
25	they communicate require and are entitled to competent, reliable interpreting
26	services; and
27	(4) The availability of competent, reliable, credentialed
28	interpreting services is necessary for individuals with hearing disabilities
29	to realize their right to full and equal participation in society.
30	(b) The purposes of this subchapter are to:
31	(1) Provide minimum qualifications for interpreters and to
32	ensure that members of the interpreting profession perform with a high degree
33	of competency;
34	(2) Regulate the practice and licensure of interpreters for
35	individuals who are deaf, deafblind, hard of hearing, or oral deaf; and
36	(3) Impose penalties for persons who violate this subchapter or

1	the rules adopted under this subchapter.
2	
3	20-14-802. Definitions.
4	As used in this subchapter:
5	(1) "Cued speech" means the system of handshapes that represent
6	groups of consonant sounds and hand placements that represent groups of vowel
7	sounds that is used with natural speech to represent a visual model of spoker
8	language;
9	(2) "Deaf interpreter" means a deaf individual who facilitates
10	communication between another deaf person and a licensed qualified
11	interpreter or between two (2) or more deaf persons;
12	(3) "Deaf individual" means an individual who has a documented
13	hearing loss so severe that the individual is unable to process speech and
14	language through hearing, with or without amplification;
15	(4) "Deafblind individual" means an individual who has a
16	combined loss of vision and hearing that prevents the individual's vision or
17	hearing from being used as a primary source for accessing information;
18	(5) "Hard of hearing individual" means an individual who has a
19	hearing loss, may primarily use visual communication, and may use assistive
20	devices;
21	(6) "Interpret" means to provide language equivalency between a
22	hearing individual and an individual who is deaf, deafblind, hard of hearing,
23	or oral deaf using techniques that include without limitation:
24	(A) American Sign Language;
25	(B) English-based sign language;
26	(C) Cued speech; and
27	(D) Oral interpreting;
28	(6) "Interpreting agency" means an entity that provides
29	qualified interpreter services for a fee;
30	(7) "Oral deaf individual" means an individual whose sense of
31	hearing is nonfunctional for the purpose of communication and whose primary
32	method of communication is speech reading and spoken English;
33	(8) "Oral interpreting" means the use of oral transliteration
34	with special techniques to make the English language visible for persons who
35	communicate as speech readers;
36	(9) "Licensed provisional interpreter" means an individual who

is deaf licensed under this subchapter; and 1 (10) "Licensed qualified interpreter" means an individual 2 3 licensed under this subchapter. 4 20-14-803. Penalties. 5 6 (a) A person who is not licensed under this subchapter and who pleads 7 guilty or nolo contendere to or is found guilty of holding himself or herself out to the public as a licensed qualified interpreter is guilty of a 8 9 violation and shall be fined not less than one hundred dollars (\$100) and not 10 more than five hundred dollars (\$500). 11 (b) An interpreting agency that pleads guilty or nolo contendere to or 12 is found guilty of knowingly hiring or providing interpreting services for an 13 individual who is deaf, deafblind, hard of hearing, or oral deaf through an 14 individual not licensed under this subchapter is guilty of a violation and 15 shall be fined not less than five hundred dollars (\$500) and not more than 16 one thousand dollars (\$1,000). 17 18 20-14-804. Advisory Board between Hearing Individuals and Individuals 19 who are Deaf, Deafblind, Hard of Hearing, or Oral Deaf - Creation -20 Membership. 21 (a) The Advisory Board for Interpreters between Hearing Individuals 22 and Individuals who are Deaf, Deafblind, Hard of Hearing, or Oral Deaf is 23 created within the Department of Health. 24 (b) The board shall consist of seven (7) members appointed by the 25 Director of the Department of Health as follows: (1) Four (4) licensed qualified interpreters appointed from a 26 27 list of eight (8) submitted by the Arkansas Registry of Interpreters for the 28 Deaf in conjunction with the Arkansas Association of the Deaf; (2) Two (2) members appointed from a list of four (4) submitted 29 30 by the Arkansas Association of the Deaf in conjunction with the Arkansas Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf who are deaf persons, hard of hearing 31 32 persons, or oral deaf persons not licensed under this subchapter; and (3) One (1) member appointed from a list of two (2) submitted by 33 the Arkansas Association of the Deaf in conjunction with the Arkansas 34 35 Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf who are neither individuals who are 36 deaf, deafblind, hard of hearing, or oral deaf and who are not licensed under

l <u>this subchapter.</u>

2	(c)(1) Each member shall serve a term of three (3) years.
3	(2) A member shall not serve more than two (2) consecutive
4	terms.
5	(d) Four (4) members of the board constitute a quorum for the
6	transaction of business of the board.
7	(e) If a vacancy occurs on the board, the director shall appoint to
8	complete the term vacated a person who possesses the same qualifications as
9	those required for the position to which he or she is appointed.
10	(f) Each member may receive expense reimbursement under § 25-16-901 et
11	seq.
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13	20-14-805. Powers and duties of Advisory Board for Interpreters
14	between Hearing Individuals and Individuals who are Deaf, Deafblind, Hard of
15	<u>Hearing</u> , or Oral Deaf.
16	(a) The Advisory Board between Hearing Individuals and Individuals who
17	are Deaf, Deafblind, Hard of Hearing, or Oral Deaf shall:
18	(1) Recommend rules for the operation of the Advisory Board
19	between Hearing Individuals and Individuals who are Deaf, Deafblind, Hard of
20	Hearing, or Oral Deaf to the State Board of Health; and
21	(2)(A) Hold meetings at the offices of the Department of Health
22	in Little Rock or at other places as the Advisory Board for Interpreters
23	between Hearing Individuals and Individuals who are Deaf, Deafblind, Hard of
24	Hearing, or Oral Deaf may determine.
25	(B) The Department of Health shall provide meeting
26	facilities and staff for meetings of the Advisory Board for Interpreters
27	between Hearing Individuals and Individuals who are Deaf, Deafblind, Hard of
28	Hearing, or Oral Deaf.
29	(b) The Advisory Board for Interpreters between Hearing Individuals
30	and Individuals who are Deaf, Deafblind, Hard of Hearing, or Oral Deaf shall
31	review and recommend to the Director of the Department of Health:
32	(1) Acceptance or rejection of applications for licensure and
33	renewal of licenses for interpreters for the deaf, deafblind, hard of
34	hearing, and oral deaf;
35	(2) Criteria for issuance and renewal of licenses for licensed
36	qualified interpreters;

1	(3) Criteria for issuance and continuance of provisional
2	licenses;
3	(4) Fees for licensure and licensure renewal under this
4	subchapter;
5	(5) Suspension or revocation of licenses under this subchapter;
6	(6) Procedures for receiving and investigating complaints under
7	the Arkansas Administrative Procedure Act, § 25-15-201 et seq.;
8	(7) Rules to ensure that an interpreting agency provides only
9	licensed qualified interpreters for services under this subchapter;
10	(8) Rules regarding conflicts of interest regarding members of
11	the Advisory Board for Interpreters Between Hearing Individuals and
12	Individuals Who are Deaf, Deafblind, Hard of Hearing, or Oral Deaf;
13	(9)(A) A code of professional conduct.
14	(B) The code of professional conduct shall provide, at a
15	minimum, that:
16	(i) A licensed qualified interpreter shall make a
17	true interpretation in an understandable manner to an individual who is deaf,
18	deafblind, hard of hearing, or oral deaf for whom the licensed qualified
19	interpreter is appointed and that the licensed qualified interpreter will
20	interpret accurately the statements of the individual who is deaf or hard of
21	hearing who desires that his or her statements be made in English to the best
22	of the licensed qualified interpreter's skill and judgment; and
23	(ii) All information that a licensed qualified
24	interpreter gathers, learns from, or relays to an individual who is deaf,
25	deafblind, hard of hearing, or oral deaf during an administrative, civil, or
26	criminal proceeding shall remain confidential and privileged unless the
27	individual who is deaf, deafblind, hard of hearing, or oral deaf desires that
28	the information be communicated to other persons; and
29	(10) A continuing education program for licensed qualified
30	interpreters.
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32	20-14-806. Powers and duties of the Director of the Department of
33	<pre>Health.</pre>
34	After consideration of the recommendation of the Advisory Board for
35	Interpreters between Hearing Individuals and Individuals who are Deaf,
36	Deafblind, Hard of Hearing, or Oral Deaf, the Director of the Department of

1	Health shall:
2	(1) Issue or deny a license or a renewal of license of a
3	licensed qualified interpreter;
4	(2) Issue or deny a license or a renewal of a licensed
5	provisional interpreter license;
6	(3) Confirm or overrule a recommendation to revoke or suspend a
7	license for an interpreter between a hearing individual and an individual who
8	is deaf, deafblind, hard of hearing, or oral deaf; and
9	(4) Create and maintain a registry of licensed qualified
10	interpreters.
11	
12	20-14-807. Licenses.
13	(a) A licensed qualified interpreter shall meet criteria established
14	under this subchapter for interpreters, including without limitation
15	certification or credentialing by the:
16	(1) Arkansas Rehabilitation Services Quality Assurance Screening
17	Test;
18	(2) Educational Interpreter Performance Assessment;
19	(3) National Association of the Deaf;
20	(4) National Cued Speech Association;
21	(5) Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, Inc.; or
22	(6) Texas Board for Evaluation of Interpreters.
23	(b) A licensed provisional interpreter license may be issued to a deaf
24	interpreter who meets criteria established under this subchapter.
25	(c) A license issued under this subchapter is valid for one (1) year.
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27	20-14-808. Prohibitions.
28	(a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, it is
29	unlawful for an individual to use the title "licensed qualified interpreter"
30	or "licensed provisional interpreter" or to hold himself or herself out as an
31	interpreter between a hearing individual and an individual who is deaf,
32	deafblind, hard of hearing, or oral deaf unless the individual using the
33	title holds a license under this subchapter.
34	(b) Subsection (a) of this section does not apply to:
35	(1) A person who interprets for an individual who is deaf,
36	deafblind, hard of hearing, or oral deaf during a religious service;

1	(2) A nonresident interpreter who holds a credential or a
2	certificate valid in another state who interprets in Arkansas less than
3	twenty (20) days per year;
4	(3) A person who interprets during an emergency; or
5	(4) A person who is an interpreter intern or a student in
6	training who is:
7	(A) Enrolled in and pursuing a degree in interpreting at
8	an accredited institution of higher learning; or
9	(B) Interpreting under the supervision of a licensed
10	qualified interpreter as part of a supervised program of study.
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12	20-14-809. Rules.
13	The State Board of Health shall adopt rules to implement this
14	subchapter.
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16	SECTION 3. DO NOT CODIFY. Initial Meeting of the Advisory Board
17	Between Hearing Individuals and Individuals Who are Deaf, Deafblind, Hard Of
18	Hearing, or Oral Deaf.
19	(a) The Director of the Department of Health shall make appointments
20	to the Advisory Board for Interpreters between Hearing Individuals and
21	Individuals who are Deaf, Deafblind, Hard of Hearing, or Oral Deaf under §
22	20-14-804 within ninety (90) days of receipt of the recommendations required
23	under § 20-14-804.
24	(b) An initial member appointed as a licensed qualified interpreter
25	member shall become licensed as a licensed qualified interpreter under this
26	subchapter within ninety (90) days after the first date of issuance of
27	licenses under this subchapter.
28	(c) The board shall hold its initial meeting within ninety (90) days
29	after the effective date of this act.
30	(d) At the first meeting, the board shall elect a chair and a
31	secretary who shall serve one-year terms.
32	(e) At the first meeting, the initial members shall draw lots for
33	staggered terms so that three (3) members serve three-year terms, two (2)
34	members serve two-year terms, and two (2) member serve one-year terms.
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36	SECTION / Arkansas Code && 25-15-101 and 25-15-102 are amended to

l read as follows:

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2 25-15-101. Interpreters generally between a hearing individual and an individual who is deaf, deafblind, hard of hearing, or oral deaf.

- (a) As used in this section, "interpreter" means an interpreter as defined in § 25-15-102;
- (a) (b) Every A person who cannot speak or understand the English language or who because of hearing, speaking, or other impairment has difficulty in communicating with other persons, and who is a party to any a civil proceeding or a witness therein, shall be in a civil proceeding is entitled to an interpreter to assist that person throughout the proceeding.
- (b)(c)(1) An interpreter may be retained by the party or witness
 himself or herself, or, if the person is unable to pay for an interpreter,
 may be appointed by the administrative board or agency before which the
 proceeding is pending.
 - (2) If an interpreter is appointed by the board or agency, the fee for the services of the interpreter shall be set by the board or agency and be paid from any funds available to the board or agency or be paid in any other manner ordered by the board or agency.
 - $\frac{\text{(e)}(d)}{d}$ Any An administrative agency may inquire into the qualifications and integrity of any an interpreter and may disqualify any person for cause from serving as an interpreter.
- 22 (d)(e) Every An interpreter for another person who is either a party
 23 or a witness in an administrative proceeding as referred to in under this
 24 section shall take the following oath:
- 25 "Do you solemnly swear (or affirm) that you will justly, truly, and 26 impartially interpret to the oath about to be administered to him
- 27 (her), and the questions which may be asked him (her), and the answers that
- 28 he (she) shall give to such questions, relative to the cause now under
- consideration before this board (agency), so help you God (or under the pains
- 30 and penalties of perjury)?"
- 32 25-15-102. Interpreters for the deaf between a hearing individual and 33 an individual who is deaf, deafblind, hard of hearing, or oral deaf.
- 34 (a) For the purpose of appointing an interpreter for deaf persons,
 35 deafblind persons, hard-of-hearing persons, and oral deaf persons between a
 36 hearing individual and an individual who is deaf, deafblind, hard of hearing,

1 or oral deaf under § 25-15-101: 2 (1) "Any administrative Administrative proceeding" means any a 3 proceeding of any a department, board, commission, agency, committee, or 4 licensing authority of the state or of any a political subdivision or 5 municipality, and it shall appoint a qualified interpreter to interpret the 6 proceedings to the deaf person and to interpret his or her testimony or 7 statements: 8 (2) "Deaf individual" means an individual who has a documented 9 hearing loss so severe that the individual is unable to process speech and language through hearing, with or without amplification; 10 11 (3) "Deafblind individual" means an individual who has a 12 combined loss of vision and hearing that prevents the individual's vision or 13 hearing from being used as a primary source for accessing information; (4) "Hard of hearing individual" means an individual who has a 14 15 hearing loss, may primarily use visual communication, and may use assistive 16 devices: 17 (5) "Interpreter" means a licensed qualified interpreter or a licensed provisional interpreter licensed by the Department of Health under § 18 19 20-14-801 et seq.; (6) "Oral deaf individual" means an individual whose sense of 20 hearing is nonfunctional for the purpose of communication and whose primary 21 22 communication is by speech reading and spoken English; and 23 (2)(A)(7) "Oral interpreter" means a person who interprets 24 language through facial and lip movements only and who does not use manual 25 communication licensed qualified interpreter or a licensed provisional 26 interpreter who interprets language through facial and lip movements only and 27 who does not use manual communication. 28 (B) An oral interpreter shall be provided upon the request 29 of a deaf person who does not communicate in sign language. 30 (C) The right of a deaf person to an interpreter may not 31 be waived except by a deaf person who does not use sign language and who 32 initiates the request for waiver in writing. The waiver is subject to 33 approval of counsel to the deaf person, if existent, and is subject to 34 approval of the appointing authority; and 35 (3)(A) "Qualified interpreter" means an interpreter certified by 36 the National Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, Arkansas Registry of

1 Interpreters for the Deaf, or, in the event an interpreter so certified is

- 2 not available, an interpreter who is otherwise qualified
- 3 (B) Efforts to obtain the services of a qualified
- 4 interpreter certified with a Legal Skills Certificate or a Comprehensive
- 5 Skills Certificate will be made prior to accepting services of an interpreter
- 6 with lesser certification.
- 7 $\frac{(C)(b)(1)}{No}$ No An qualified interpreter shall not be appointed unless
- 8 the appointing authority and the deaf person make individual who is deaf,
- 9 <u>deafblind</u>, hard of hearing, or oral deaf makes a preliminary determination
- 10 that the interpreter is able to readily communicate with the deaf person
- ll individual who is deaf, deafblind, hard of hearing, or oral deaf and is able
- 12 to accurately interpret the statements of the deaf person individual who is
- 13 <u>deaf, deafblind, hard of hearing, or oral deaf</u> and interpret the proceedings
- 14 in which a deaf person an individual who is deaf, deafblind, hard of hearing,
- 15 <u>or oral deaf</u> may be involved.
- 16 (D)(2) Every deaf person An individual who is deaf, deafblind,
- 17 hard of hearing, or oral deaf entitled to an interpreter under § 25-15-101
- 18 $\frac{\text{shall be is}}{\text{shall be is}}$ entitled to a qualified an interpreter as defined by this
- 19 subsection.
- 20 (c)(1) An oral interpreter shall be provided upon the request of an
- 21 individual who is deaf, deafblind, hard of hearing, or oral deaf who does not
- 22 communicate in sign language.
- 23 (2)(A) The right of an individual who is oral deaf to an
- 24 <u>interpreter may not be waived except by an individual who is oral deaf who</u>
- 25 <u>does not use sign language and who initiates the request for a waiver in</u>
- 26 writing.
- 27 (B) The waiver is subject to approval of counsel to the
- 28 individual who is oral deaf, if existent, and is subject to approval of the
- 29 appointing authority.
- 30 (d) A department, board, commission, agency, committee, or licensing
- 31 <u>authority of the state or of a political subdivision or municipality shall</u>
- 32 appoint an interpreter to interpret an administrative proceeding to an
- 33 individual who is deaf, deafblind, hard of hearing, or oral deaf and to
- 34 interpret the testimony or statements of the individual who is deaf,
- 35 <u>deafblind</u>, hard of hearing, or oral deaf.
- 36 (b)(e)(1) Every deaf person An individual who is deaf, deafblind, hard

- 1 of hearing, or oral deaf whose appearance before a proceeding entitles him or
- 2 her to an interpreter should shall notify the appointing authority of his or
- 3 her need prior to any the need of the individual who is deaf, deafblind, hard
- 4 of hearing, or oral deaf before an appearance and should shall request at
- 5 that time the services of an interpreter.
- 6 (2)(A) When If a deaf person an individual who is deaf,
- 7 <u>deafblind</u>, hard of hearing, or oral deaf reasonably expects the need for an
- 8 interpreter to be for a period greater than a single day, he or she should
- 9 the individual who is deaf, deafblind, hard of hearing, or oral deaf shall
- 10 notify the appointing authority.
- 11 (B) This notification shall be sufficient for the duration
- of his or her the participation of the individual who is deaf, deafblind,
- 13 <u>hard of hearing</u>, or oral deaf in the proceedings.
- $\frac{(e)(f)}{(f)}$ An appointing authority may require a person requesting the
- 15 appointment of an interpreter to furnish reasonable proof of $\frac{1}{1}$ or $\frac{1}{1}$ $\frac{1}{1}$
- deafness of the individual who is deaf, deafblind, hard of hearing, or oral
- 17 <u>deaf</u> when the appointing authority has reason to believe that the <u>person</u> <u>deaf</u>
- 18 person, deafblind person, hard of hearing person, or oral deaf person is not
- 19 deaf, deafblind, hard of hearing, or oral deaf.
- 20 (d)(g) It shall be the responsibility of the The appointing authority
- 21 to shall channel requests for qualified interpreters through the Department
- 22 of Health:

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- 23 (1) The Arkansas Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf;
- 24 (2) The Office for the Deaf and Hearing Impaired of the Arkansas
- 25 Rehabilitation Services of the Department of Career Education;
 - (3) The University of Arkansas at Little Rock Interpreter
- 27 Education Program; or
- 28 (4) Any community resource wherein the appointing authority or
- 29 the deaf person is knowledgeable that qualified interpreters can be found.
- 30 (e)(h) Before a qualified an interpreter participates in any
- 31 proceedings subsequent to an appointment under the provisions of this
- 32 section, the interpreter shall make an oath or affirmation that the
- 33 interpreter will:
- 34 (1) make Make a true interpretation in an understandable manner
- 35 to the deaf person individual who is deaf, deafblind, hard of hearing, or
- 36 <u>oral deaf</u> for whom he or she the interpreter is appointed; and

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1	(2) that the interpreter will interpret Interpret the statements
2	of the deaf person individual who is deaf, deafblind, hard of hearing, or
3	$\underline{\text{oral deaf}}$ desiring that statements be made, in the $\underline{\text{English language to the}}$
4	best of the interpreter's skill and judgment language best suited to the
5	needs of the individual who is deaf, deafblind, hard of hearing, or oral
6	deaf.
7	$\frac{(f)(i)}{(i)}$ The appointing authority shall provide recess periods as
8	necessary for the interpreter when the interpreter $\frac{1}{2}$ so $\frac{1}{2}$ indicates $\frac{1}{2}$ requests $\frac{1}{2}$
9	recess period.
10	(g)(j) All information Information that the interpreter gathers,
11	learns from, or relays to the deaf person or person who is unable to
12	communicate in English individual who is deaf, deafblind, hard of hearing, or
13	$\underline{\text{oral deaf}}$ pertaining to $\underline{\text{any}}$ $\underline{\text{an}}$ administrative, civil, or criminal proceeding
14	shall at all times remain confidential and privileged, on an equal basis with
15	the attorney-client privilege, unless the deaf person or person who is unable
16	to communicate in English the individual who is deaf, deafblind, hard of
17	hearing, or oral deaf desires that such the information be communicated to
18	other persons.
19	$\frac{(h)(k)(1)}{(k)(n)}$ An interpreter appointed under the provisions of this
20	section $\frac{1}{2}$ section $\frac{1}{2}$ entitled to a reasonable fee for his or her services.
21	(2) The fee shall be in accordance with standards established by
22	the Arkansas Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf Department of Health and
23	in addition to actual expenses for travel and transportation.
24	(3)(A) When If the interpreter is appointed by a court, the fee
25	shall be paid out of general county funds.
26	(B) When If the interpreter is otherwise appointed, the
27	fee shall be paid out of funds available to the appointing authority.
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29	/s/B. King
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