



State of Wisconsin
2017 - 2018 LEGISLATURE

LRB-2200/4
MPG:ahe

2017 BILL

1 **AN ACT** *to repeal* 15.407 (9) and 440.032; *to amend* 905.015 (2) (intro.); and *to*
2 *create* 15.08 (3) (d), 15.405 (18) and chapter 471 of the statutes; **relating to:**
3 regulation of sign language interpretation services, granting the exercise of
4 rule-making authority, and providing a criminal penalty.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill replaces the current licensure program for sign language interpreters licensed by the Department of Safety and Professional Services with a licensure program administered by the Sign Language Interpreters Examining Board, which is created in the bill. The board's membership consists of three deaf, hard of hearing, or deaf-blind individuals, three experienced sign language interpreters who are licensed under the bill, and one individual who is not deaf, hard of hearing, or deaf-blind and has obtained the services of a sign language interpreter on behalf of an individual who is deaf, hard of hearing, or deaf-blind.

Under the bill, the board grants the following licenses:

1. Sign language interpreter — intermediate hearing. The board must license an individual as a sign language interpreter — intermediate hearing if, among other requirements, the individual has received at least a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university; the individual has successfully completed an interpreter training program; and the individual has passed the basic performance examination administered by the Board for Evaluation of Interpreters (BEI) or equivalent exam and is certified by BEI. The bill includes alternative paths to licensure as a sign language interpreter — intermediate hearing.

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2. Sign language interpreter — advanced hearing. The board must license an individual as a sign language interpreter — advanced hearing if, among other requirements, the individual has received at least a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university; the individual has successfully completed an interpreter training program; and the individual has passed the advanced or master performance examination administered by BEI and is certified by BEI, has passed the examination for and holds the national interpreter certification issued by the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, Inc. (RID), or has passed an exam the board determines is substantially equivalent. The bill includes alternative paths to licensure as a sign language interpreter — advanced hearing.

3. Sign language interpreter — intermediate deaf. The board must license an individual as a sign language interpreter — intermediate deaf if, among other requirements, the individual holds a high school diploma or its equivalent; the individual successfully completed at least 40 hours of a sign language interpreter training curriculum for deaf interpreters; the individual successfully completed at least 16 hours of sign language interpretation-related training approved by BEI or RID; and the individual provides to the board letters of recommendation from at least two individuals who hold a sign language interpreter — advanced deaf license, a certified deaf interpreter certification issued by RID, or an equivalent certification. Taken in the aggregate, the letters of recommendation must verify that the individual has successfully completed at least 25 hours of observing the provision of sign language interpretation services provided to clients.

4. Sign language interpreter — advanced deaf. The board must license an individual as a sign language interpreter — advanced deaf if, among other requirements, the individual holds at least an associate degree or satisfies an alternative pathway for education and the individual holds a certified deaf interpreter certification issued by RID or an equivalent certification, as determined by the board.

The bill requires the board to promulgate rules defining the scope of practice of each of the licenses described above, subject to certain restrictions set forth in the bill.

The bill also establishes a committee to negotiate, develop, execute, and periodically review on behalf of the board a memorandum of understanding between the board and the Department of Public Instruction regarding DPI's licensure of educational sign language interpreters. An individual licensed by DPI and providing sign language interpretation services at a school or school-sponsored event is not required to be licensed by the board. The bill also includes other temporary and permanent exemptions from licensure.

Finally, in addition to enforcement powers and penalties that are similar to the powers provided to other examining boards and applicable penalties, the bill provides enforcement authority to the board with respect to the unauthorized practice of sign language interpretation or the unauthorized use of a title related to sign language interpretation. Under the bill, the board may conduct investigations, hold hearings, and make findings as to whether a person has engaged in a practice or used a title without a license required under the bill. If the board determines after

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a public hearing that a person has engaged in a practice or used a title without a required license, the board may issue a special order enjoining the person from the continuation of the practice or use of the title. Any person who violates such a special order may be required to pay a forfeiture of up to \$10,000 for each offense. The board, DSPS, the attorney general, or any district attorney may commence an action in the name of the state to recover the forfeiture.

In lieu of holding a public hearing, the board may petition the circuit court for a temporary restraining order or an injunction. Any person who violates such a temporary restraining order or injunction may be fined between \$25 and \$5,000 or imprisoned for up to one year in the county jail or both.

Similar, although not identical, enforcement authority is provided to DSPS under current law concerning the unauthorized practice or use of a title with respect to a profession regulated by DSPS or a board under DSPS.

For further information see the *state* fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

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

1 **SECTION 1.** 15.08 (3) (d) of the statutes is created to read:

2 15.08 (3) (d) The sign language interpreters examining board shall meet at
3 least once every 3 months.

4 **SECTION 2.** 15.405 (18) of the statutes is created to read:

5 15.405 (18) SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETERS EXAMINING BOARD. (a) In this
6 subsection, "interpretation services" has the meaning given in s. 471.01 (3).

7 (b) There is created a sign language interpreters examining board in the
8 department of safety and professional services consisting of the following members
9 appointed for 4-year terms:

10 1. Three deaf, hard of hearing, or deaf-blind individuals who are not sign
11 language interpreters. All of the members appointed under this subdivision shall
12 have experience as individual clients of sign language interpreters providing
13 interpretation services.

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1 **(3)** “Interpretation services” means any kind of sign language interpretation
2 services provided to a client, whether provided by a hearing or deaf interpreter.

3 **(4)** “Interpreter training program” means any postsecondary educational
4 program that prepares individuals to perform interpretation services.

5 **(4m)** “Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf” means the Registry of Interpreters
6 for the Deaf, Inc., or its successor.

7 **(5)** “Support service provider” means an individual who is trained to act as a
8 link between an individual who is deaf-blind and that individual’s environment.

9 **471.02 License required. (1)** No individual may, for compensation, provide
10 interpretation services to a client unless the individual is licensed under s. 471.04
11 or is exempt from licensure.

12 **(2)** No individual may use the title “sign language interpreter,” “interpreter for
13 the deaf,” “hearing interpreter,” “deaf interpreter,” “American sign language
14 interpreter,” “ASL English interpreter,” or describe or imply that he or she is an
15 individual who provides interpretation services to clients, or represent himself or
16 herself as an individual who provides interpretation services to clients unless the
17 individual is licensed under s. 471.04 or is exempt from licensure under sub. (3) (a)
18 or (b) or s. 471.03 or 471.035.

19 **(2m)** If interpretation services are provided via live remote video conferencing,
20 an individual providing interpretation services shall be licensed under this section
21 if any of the following applies at the time the interpretation services are provided:

22 (a) The client is located in this state.

23 (b) The individual providing interpretation services is located in this state.

24 **(3)** No license is required under this section for any of the following:

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1 (a) An individual providing interpretation services at any school or
2 school-sponsored event if the individual is licensed by the department of public
3 instruction as an educational interpreter. Subject to s. 471.07 (3), the board and the
4 department of public instruction shall enter into a memorandum of understanding
5 defining the scope of practice of a license issued by the department of public
6 instruction under this paragraph. The department, on behalf of the board, and the
7 department of public instruction shall post the memorandum of understanding on
8 their Internet sites.

9 (b) An individual providing interpretation services at a religious service or at
10 a religious function, including educational or social events sponsored by a religious
11 organization. This paragraph does not apply to an individual providing
12 interpretation services for a religious organization at a professional function
13 provided or sponsored by the religious organization.

14 (c) A support service provider providing interpretation services for the purpose
15 of facilitating communication between an individual who provides interpretation
16 services and a client of the individual.

17 (d) An individual who, in the course of the individual's employment, provides
18 interpretation services during an emergency unless the interpretation services are
19 provided during a period that exceeds 24 consecutive hours.

20 **471.03 Temporary exemptions.** The board may grant, on a case-by-case
21 basis, a temporary exemption from the licensure requirement under s. 471.02 to an
22 individual applying for a temporary exemption, subject to the following:

23 (1) The board may not grant the same individual temporary exemptions that
24 total more than 21 days in the aggregate each year.

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1 (2) An individual's application for a temporary exemption under this section
2 shall be in writing, shall describe the reasons why the individual cannot obtain a
3 license under s. 471.04 and describe any professional credential the individual does
4 possess, and shall specify the dates the individual intends to provide interpretation
5 services.

6 (3) The board shall approve or deny a temporary exemption under this section
7 within 10 business days after receiving that application.

8 **471.035 Permanent exemptions.** The board may grant, on a case-by-case
9 basis, a permanent exemption from the licensure requirement under s. 471.02 to an
10 individual applying for a permanent exemption, subject to the following:

11 (1) An individual's application for a permanent exemption under this section
12 shall describe the reasons why the individual cannot obtain a license under s. 471.04.

13 (2) If the applicant for permanent exemption will be providing interpretation
14 services to a single client only, the individual's application shall identify that client.

15 **471.04 Licensure.** The board shall grant licenses for the provision of
16 interpretation services under the following license categories:

17 (1) SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETER — INTERMEDIATE HEARING. The board shall grant
18 a sign language interpreter — intermediate hearing license to an applicant who
19 submits an application on a form provided by the board, pays the fee determined by
20 the department under s. 440.05 (1) (a), and satisfies any of the following:

21 (a) The applicant satisfies all of the following conditions:

22 1. The applicant has received at least a bachelor's degree from an accredited
23 college or university.

24 2. The applicant provides evidence satisfactory to the board that the applicant
25 has successfully completed an interpreter training program.

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1 3. The applicant has passed the basic performance examination of and is
2 certified by the Board for Evaluation of Interpreters, or the applicant has passed a
3 substantially equivalent examination, as determined by the board.

4 (b) The applicant satisfies all of the following conditions:

5 1. The applicant earned an associate degree in sign language interpretation
6 before the effective date of this subdivision [LRB inserts date].

7 2. The applicant has passed the basic performance examination of and is
8 certified by the Board for Evaluation of Interpreters, or the applicant has passed a
9 substantially equivalent examination, as determined by the board.

10 (c) The applicant satisfies all of the following conditions:

11 1. Before the effective date of this subdivision [LRB inserts date], the
12 applicant passed the basic performance examination of and is certified by the Board
13 for Evaluation of Interpreters, or before the effective date of this subdivision [LRB
14 inserts date], the applicant passed a substantially equivalent examination, as
15 determined by the board.

16 2. The board approves the applicant's licensure after review of all of the
17 circumstances.

18 **(2) SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETER — ADVANCED HEARING.** The board shall grant a
19 sign language interpreter — advanced hearing license to an applicant who submits
20 an application on a form provided by the board, pays the fee determined by the
21 department under s. 440.05 (1) (a), and satisfies any of the following:

22 (a) The applicant satisfies all of the following conditions:

23 1. The applicant has received at least a bachelor's degree from an accredited
24 college or university.

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1 2. The applicant provides evidence satisfactory to the board that the applicant
2 has successfully completed an interpreter training program.

3 3. The applicant has passed the advanced or master performance examination
4 of and is certified by the Board for Evaluation of Interpreters, the applicant has
5 passed the examination for and holds the national interpreter certification issued by
6 the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, or the applicant has passed a substantially
7 equivalent examination, as determined by the board.

8 (b) The applicant was issued before the effective date of this paragraph [LRB
9 inserts date], and maintains in good standing any of the following:

10 1. The national interpreter certification (NIC), advanced or master level
11 national interpreter certification (NIC-Advance or NIC-Master), certificate of
12 interpretation (CI), certificate of transliteration (CT), comprehensive skills
13 certificate (CSC), master comprehensive skills certificate (MSCS), interpretation
14 certificate (IC), or transliteration certificate (TC), issued by the Registry of
15 Interpreters for the Deaf.

16 2. The National Association of the Deaf III, IV, or V certification.

17 3. The advanced or master certification of the Board for Evaluation of
18 Interpreters.

19 **(3) SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETER — INTERMEDIATE DEAF.** The board shall grant a
20 sign language interpreter — intermediate deaf license to an applicant who submits
21 an application on a form provided by the board, pays the fee determined by the
22 department under s. 440.03 (9) (a), and satisfies all of the following:

23 (a) The applicant holds a high school diploma or its equivalent, as determined
24 by the board.

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1 (b) The applicant submits evidence satisfactory to the board of the applicant's
2 successful completion of at least 40 hours of a deaf interpreter training curriculum
3 approved by the board.

4 (c) The applicant submits evidence satisfactory to the board of the applicant's
5 successful completion of at least 16 hours of interpretation services-related training
6 approved for continuing education credits by the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf
7 or the Board for Evaluation of Interpreters.

8 (d) The applicant submits evidence satisfactory to the board of the applicant's
9 successful completion of American sign language linguistics I and II or substantially
10 equivalent coursework, as determined by the board.

11 (e) The applicant provides to the board letters of recommendation satisfactory
12 to the board from at least 2 individuals who hold a sign language interpreter —
13 advanced deaf license, a certified deaf interpreter certification issued by the Registry
14 of Interpreters for the Deaf, or an equivalent certification as determined by the
15 board. Taken in the aggregate, the letters of recommendation shall verify that the
16 applicant has successfully completed at least 25 hours of observing interpretation
17 services provided to clients.

18 **(4) SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETER — ADVANCED DEAF.** The board shall grant a sign
19 language interpreter — advanced deaf license to an applicant who submits an
20 application on a form provided by the board, pays the fee determined by the
21 department under s. 440.03 (9) (a), and satisfies all of the following:

22 (a) The applicant holds at least an associate degree or satisfies an alternative
23 pathway for education, as determined by the board.

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1 (b) The applicant holds a certified deaf interpreter certification issued by the
2 Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf or an equivalent certification, as determined by
3 the board.

4 **471.045 Exam administration in Wisconsin.** The department of health
5 services shall administer in this state the performance examinations of the Board for
6 Evaluation of Interpreters, unless the board approves another administrator of the
7 examinations.

8 **471.05 Scope of license.** The board shall promulgate rules defining the scope
9 of practice of each license granted under s. 471.04, subject to the following:

10 **(1) SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETER — INTERMEDIATE HEARING.** (a) A sign language
11 interpreter — intermediate hearing licensee may not provide interpretation services
12 to clients in any medical setting, as determined by the board, unless he or she is team
13 interpreting with a sign language interpreter — advanced hearing or sign language
14 interpreter — advanced deaf.

15 (b) A sign language interpreter — intermediate hearing licensee may not
16 provide interpretation services to clients in any legal or mental health setting, as
17 determined by the board.

18 **(2) INTERPRETATION IN LEGAL SETTINGS.** No sign language interpreter —
19 advanced hearing, sign language interpreter — intermediate deaf, or sign language
20 interpreter — advanced deaf licensee may provide interpretation services to a client
21 in any legal setting, as determined by the board, unless he or she is also certified,
22 including a provisional certification, by the supreme court to act as a qualified
23 interpreter in court proceedings under s. 885.38 (2).

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1 **471.053 License renewal; continuing education.** (1) The renewal date for
2 a license granted under s. 471.04 is specified in s. 440.08 (2) (a) 68c., and the renewal
3 fee is determined by the department under s. 440.03 (9) (a).

4 (2) If the initial license of an applicant for license renewal required the
5 applicant to hold a certification issued by the Board for Evaluation of Interpreters,
6 Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, or another organization, the applicant shall
7 submit evidence satisfactory to the board that the applicant's certification that is
8 required for the license has not been revoked or invalidated or otherwise expired.

9 (3) The board shall promulgate rules requiring each applicant for license
10 renewal to submit to the board evidence satisfactory to the board of the applicant's
11 completion of at least 30 hours of continuing education during the 2-year period
12 immediately preceding the renewal date specified under s. 440.08 (2) (a) 68c., subject
13 to the following:

14 (a) For each renewal period, up to 5 hours of continuing education may be
15 satisfied by community volunteering in the deaf, hard of hearing, or deaf-blind
16 community or with a professional sign language interpretation community
17 organization.

18 (b) For each renewal period, up to 5 hours of continuing education may be
19 satisfied by mentoring, as determined by the board.

20 (c) Continuing education hours earned through workshops, conferences, and
21 college courses shall have been approved as continuing education by the Registry of
22 Interpreters for the Deaf or the Board for Evaluation of Interpreters for purposes of
23 certifications issued by those entities.

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1 (d) No more than 10 hours of continuing education in excess of the 30 hours
2 required under this subsection may be carried over to the immediately succeeding
3 renewal period.

4 (e) An applicant for renewal who obtained his or her initial license under s.
5 471.04 within the 12 months immediately preceding the renewal date specified
6 under s. 440.08 (2) (a) 68c. need not satisfy the continuing education requirements
7 under this subsection.

8 (f) On a case-by-case basis, the board may grant an extension of time to satisfy,
9 or a waiver of, some or all of the continuing education requirements under this
10 subsection.

11 **471.057 Reciprocal licensure. (1)** Upon application and payment of the fee
12 specified in s. 440.05 (2), the board may grant the appropriate category of license
13 under s. 471.04 to an individual who holds a license or other credential granted by
14 a governmental authority in a jurisdiction outside this state that qualifies the
15 applicant to provide interpretation services to clients under that category of license
16 granted by the board.

17 **(2)** The board may enter into a reciprocal agreement with the officials of a
18 jurisdiction outside this state for licensing interpreters and may grant a license to
19 an individual licensed in that jurisdiction according to the terms of that agreement.

20 **471.06 Identification cards.** The board shall promulgate rules requiring all
21 interpreters licensed under s. 471.04 to have an identification card with them at all
22 times while providing interpretation services to clients for compensation. The board
23 shall issue the identification card. The identification card issued to a licensee for
24 purposes of this section shall satisfy all of the following conditions:

25 **(1)** Include all of the following:

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1 (a) The interpreter's full name.

2 (b) The interpreter's licensure category, whether sign language interpreter —
3 intermediate hearing, sign language interpreter — advanced hearing, sign language
4 interpreter — intermediate deaf, or sign language interpreter — advanced deaf.

5 (c) Any applicable licensure restriction.

6 (d) A statement whether the interpreter is certified by the supreme court to act
7 as a qualified interpreter in court proceedings under s. 885.38 (2) and whether that
8 certification is provisional.

9 (e) Any other information required by the board.

10 **(2)** Be color-coded based on the interpreter's licensure category identified
11 under sub. (1) (b). An intermediate license shall be yellow. An advanced license shall
12 be green.

13 **471.065 Professional conduct.** The board shall promulgate rules governing
14 the professional conduct of individuals licensed under s. 471.04. The rules shall
15 incorporate the rules of professional conduct adopted by the National Association of
16 the Deaf, or its successor, and Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf.

17 **471.07 Memorandum of understanding advisory committee.** **(1)** In this
18 section, "memorandum of understanding" means the memorandum of
19 understanding established under s. 471.02 (3) (a).

20 **(2)** The secretary shall appoint a committee under s. 440.042, consisting of the
21 following members:

22 (a) One member of the board, appointed by the board.

23 (b) One representative of the department of public instruction, appointed by
24 the state superintendent of public instruction.

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1 (c) One member of the deaf and hard-of-hearing education council, appointed
2 by that council.

3 (d) One interpreter licensed under s. 471.04, appointed by the board.

4 (e) One individual who is licensed by the department of public instruction as
5 an educational interpreter, appointed by the state superintendent of public
6 instruction.

7 (f) One member of the deaf, hard of hearing, and deaf-blind community who
8 attended public schools and received the services of an educational interpreter
9 licensed by the department of public instruction, appointed by the board.

10 (g) One member of the deaf, hard of hearing, and deaf-blind community who
11 is a parent of a child attending public school, appointed by the board.

12 **(3)** The committee appointed under sub. (1) shall do all of the following:

13 (a) On behalf of the board negotiate, develop, and execute the memorandum of
14 understanding established under s. 471.02 (3) (a).

15 (b) Meet at least once every 2 years to review the memorandum of
16 understanding established under s. 471.02 (3) (a) and make recommendations to the
17 board and the department of public instruction concerning changes to the
18 memorandum of understanding.

19 **471.08 Disciplinary actions and proceedings.** (1) Subject to the rules
20 promulgated under s. 440.03 (1), the board may make investigations and conduct
21 hearings to determine whether a violation of this chapter or any rule promulgated
22 under this chapter has occurred.

23 **(2)** Subject to the rules promulgated under s. 440.03 (1), the board may
24 reprimand an interpreter licensed under s. 471.04 or deny, limit, suspend, or revoke

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1 a license granted under s. 471.04 if the board finds that an applicant for a license or
2 a licensee has done any of the following:

3 (a) Intentionally made a material misstatement in an application for a license
4 or license renewal.

5 (b) Subject to ss. 111.321, 111.322, and 111.335, been arrested or convicted of
6 an offense the circumstances of which substantially relate to the provision of
7 interpretation services to clients.

8 (c) Subject to ss. 111.321, 111.322, and 111.34, provided interpretation services
9 to a client while the interpreter's ability to do so was impaired by alcohol or other
10 drugs.

11 (d) Been adjudicated mentally incompetent by a court of competent
12 jurisdiction. A certified copy of the record of an adjudication of incompetency is
13 conclusive evidence of incompetence under this paragraph.

14 (e) Advertised in a manner that is false or misleading.

15 (f) Obtained or attempted to obtain compensation through fraud or deceit.

16 (g) Failed to cooperate with the board in an investigation under this section.

17 (h) Aided another person in violating this chapter or any rule promulgated
18 under this chapter.

19 (i) Violated this chapter or any rule promulgated under this chapter or violated
20 any other law of this state, any law of another state, or any federal law that
21 substantially relates to the provision of interpretation services to clients.

22 **(3)** In addition to or in lieu of a reprimand or other action under sub. (2), the
23 board may establish by rule other penalties, including a forfeiture not to exceed
24 \$1,000 for each violation, for a violation under sub. (2).

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1 **471.09 Penalty.** A person who violates this chapter or any rule promulgated
2 under this chapter may be fined not more than \$10,000 or imprisoned for not more
3 than 6 months or both.

4 **471.095 Injunction. (1)** The board may conduct investigations, hold
5 hearings, and make findings as to whether a person has engaged in a practice or used
6 a title without a license required under s. 471.02.

7 **(2)** If, after holding a public hearing, the board determines that a person has
8 engaged in a practice or used a title without a license required under s. 471.02, the
9 board may issue a special order enjoining the person from the continuation of the
10 practice or use of the title.

11 **(3)** In lieu of holding a public hearing, if the board has reason to believe that
12 a person has engaged in a practice or used a title without a license required under
13 s. 471.02, the board may petition the circuit court for a temporary restraining order
14 or an injunction as provided in ch. 813.

15 **(4) (a)** Any person who violates a special order issued under sub. (2) may be
16 required to forfeit not more than \$10,000 for each offense. Each day of continued
17 violation constitutes a separate offense. The board, department, attorney general,
18 or any district attorney may commence an action in the name of the state to recover
19 a forfeiture under this paragraph.

20 **(b)** Any person who violates a temporary restraining order or an injunction
21 issued by a court upon a petition under sub. (3) may be fined not less than \$25 nor
22 more than \$5,000 or imprisoned for not more than one year in the county jail or both.

23 **SECTION 6.** 905.015 (2) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

24 905.015 **(2)** (intro.) In addition to the privilege under sub. (1), a person who is
25 licensed as an interpreter under s. ~~440.032~~ ~~(3)~~ 471.04 may not disclose any aspect of

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1 a confidential communication facilitated by the interpreter unless one of the
2 following conditions applies:

3 **SECTION 7. Nonstatutory provisions.**

4 (1) DEFINITION. In subsections (2) to (5), “board” means the sign language
5 interpreters examining board.

6 (2) CREDENTIALS OF INITIAL MEMBERS. Notwithstanding section 15.405 (18) (b)
7 2. or 3. of the statutes, the initial members appointed to the board under section
8 15.405 (18) (b) 2. or 3. of the statutes need not be licensed under section 471.04 of the
9 statutes, but shall be sign language interpreters licensed under section 440.032,
10 2015 stats.

11 (3) STAGGERING OF TERMS. Notwithstanding the length of terms specified for the
12 members of the board under section 15.405 (18) (b) (intro.) of the statutes, 2 of the
13 initial members shall be appointed for terms expiring on July 1, 2020; 2 of the initial
14 members shall be appointed for terms expiring on July 1, 2021; 2 of the initial
15 members shall be appointed for terms expiring on July 1, 2022; and one of the initial
16 members shall be appointed for a term expiring on July 1, 2023.

17 (4) TRANSITIONAL LICENSURE.

18 (a) *Sign language interpreter — intermediate hearing.* On the effective date of
19 this paragraph, a sign language interpreter who, immediately prior to the effective
20 date of this paragraph, held a valid 151 Restricted License issued by the department
21 of safety and professional services, is considered to be a licensed sign language
22 interpreter — intermediate hearing under section 471.04 (1) of the statutes, and the
23 department of safety and professional services shall issue a license to the individual
24 under section 471.04 (1) of the statutes notwithstanding the fee and other
25 application requirements under that section of the statutes.

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1 (b) *Sign language interpreter — advanced hearing.* On the effective date of this
2 paragraph, a sign language interpreter who, immediately prior to the effective date
3 of this paragraph, held a valid 150 Renewable License issued by the department of
4 safety and professional services, is considered to be a licensed sign language
5 interpreter — advanced hearing under section 471.04 (2) of the statutes, and the
6 department of safety and professional services shall issue a license to the individual
7 under section 471.04 (2) of the statutes notwithstanding the fee and other
8 application requirements under that section of the statutes.

9 (c) *Sign language interpreter — intermediate deaf.* On the effective date of this
10 paragraph, a sign language interpreter who is deaf, hard of hearing, or deaf-blind
11 and who, immediately prior to the effective date of this paragraph, held a valid 151
12 Restricted License issued by the department of safety and professional services, is
13 considered to be a licensed sign language interpreter — intermediate deaf under
14 section 471.04 (3) of the statutes, and the department of safety and professional
15 services shall issue a license to the individual under section 471.04 (3) of the statutes
16 notwithstanding the fee and other application requirements under that section of the
17 statutes.

18 (d) *Sign language interpreter — advanced deaf.* On the effective date of this
19 paragraph, a sign language interpreter who is deaf, hard of hearing, or deaf-blind
20 and who, immediately prior to the effective date of this paragraph, held a valid 150
21 Renewable License issued by the department of safety and professional services, is
22 considered to be a licensed sign language interpreter — advanced deaf under section
23 471.04 (4) of the statutes, and the department of safety and professional services
24 shall issue a license to the individual under section 471.04 (4) of the statutes

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1 notwithstanding the fee and other application requirements under that section of the
2 statutes.

3 (5) OTHER TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS.

4 (a) *Department of safety and professional services.*

5 1. 'Pending matters.' Each matter pending with the department of safety and
6 professional services on the effective date of this subdivision that is primarily related
7 to the regulation of sign language interpreters, as determined by the secretary of
8 safety and professional services, is transferred to the board and all materials
9 submitted to or actions taken by the department of safety and professional services
10 with respect to the pending matter are considered as having been submitted to or
11 taken by the board.

12 2. 'Rules and orders.' All rules promulgated by the department of safety and
13 professional services that are primarily related to the regulation of sign language
14 interpreters, as determined by the secretary of safety and professional services, and
15 that are in effect on the effective date of this subdivision remain in effect until their
16 specified expiration dates or until amended or repealed by the board. All orders
17 issued by the department of safety and professional services that are primarily
18 related to the regulation of sign language interpreters, as determined by the
19 secretary of safety and professional services, and that are in effect on the effective
20 date of this subdivision remain in effect until their specified expiration dates or until
21 modified or rescinded by the board.

22 (b) *Elimination of the sign language interpreter council.*

23 1. 'Assets and liabilities.' On the effective date of this subdivision, the assets
24 and liabilities of the sign language interpreter council become the assets and
25 liabilities of the board.

