



North Carolina Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf

December 1, 2015

Dear Licensure Board Members,

We are sending this letter for your consideration to help strengthen the licensure law that we currently have in place for NC interpreters. While we do understand that there were some compromises that had to be endured in order get the licensure law passed we are asking that some be revisited when presenting to the General Assembly. The main one is the lack of educational interpreters being included into the law.

When licensure was first passed DPI was establishing their own standards to monitor interpreters in the educational setting and it was agreed that all educational interpreters would be exempt from the law. Post-secondary settings were supposed to follow whatever DPI developed. Since that time DPI has been using the EIPA with a requirement of obtaining a level 3 or better in order to work in the school system but to date post-secondary settings are not following this. To date there are no requirements that interpreters must have in order to work in these settings. Due to this there are a lot of unqualified individuals working in these settings and the Deaf consumers are being negatively affected. Because they are not required to hold a license the consumer has no way to report or file a complaint against these individuals and have been either suffering through or dropping out of these classes.

We are asking that you revisit this issue and include post-secondary educational interpreters into the licensure law so that consumers can continue to get highly qualified services from all individuals in every aspect of their lives. Thank you for your consideration and attention to this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

The NCRID Board