

2019 -- S 0448

LC001467

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2019

A N A C T

RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS - LICENSURE OF INTERPRETERS  
FOR THE DEAF

Introduced By: Senator Elizabeth A. Crowley

Date Introduced: February 27, 2019

Referred To: Senate Health & Human Services

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 5-71 of the General Laws entitled "Licensure of Interpreters for the  
2 Deaf" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

3 **5-71-19. Impartiality involving family members and children.**

4 No family member who is under the age of eighteen (18) years of age may work or  
5 volunteer interpreting for any deaf or hard-of-hearing patients or clients, in in-patient and out-  
6 patient medical facilities, including mental health and behavioral health facilities. Any medical  
7 service providers found in violation of this section, will be responsible for such fines and any  
8 other disciplinary actions determined by rules and regulations promulgated by the Rhode Island  
9 department of health.

10 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF

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1           This act would prohibit a person who is under the age of eighteen (18) to work or  
2 volunteer in the medical settings including mental health and behavioral health care facilities for  
3 any deaf or hard-of-hearing clients or patients.

4           This act would take effect upon passage.

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