

CHAPTER.....

AN ACT relating to interpreters; requiring an applicant for the issuance of a certificate as a court interpreter or appointment as an alternate court interpreter to submit his or her fingerprints and written permission to obtain certain records of criminal history; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

**Legislative Counsel’s Digest:**

Existing law requires the Court Administrator to adopt regulations which, subject to the availability of funding, establish a program for the certification of court interpreters and procedures for the appointment of alternate court interpreters. (NRS 1.510) This bill requires an applicant for a certificate as a court interpreter or appointment as an alternate court interpreter to submit to the Court Administrator with his or her application: (1) a complete set of his or her fingerprints; and (2) written permission authorizing the Court Administrator to forward the fingerprints to the Central Repository for Nevada Records of Criminal History for its report on the criminal history of the applicant and for reports thereafter upon renewal, and for submission to the Federal Bureau of Investigation for its report on the criminal history of the applicant.

EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

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THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN  
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

**Section 1.** NRS 1.510 is hereby amended to read as follows:

1.510 1. The Court Administrator shall, in consultation with the committee established pursuant to NRS 1.530, adopt regulations which, subject to the availability of funding, establish:

(a) A program for the certification of court interpreters for persons with language barriers who are witnesses, defendants and litigants; and

(b) Criteria and procedures for the appointment of alternate court interpreters for persons with language barriers who are witnesses, defendants and litigants.

2. The regulations established pursuant to paragraph (a) of subsection 1 must set forth:

(a) The specific languages for which court interpreters may obtain certification, based upon the need for interpreters of those languages.



(b) Any examination and the qualifications which are required for:

- (1) Certification; and
- (2) Renewal of the certification.

(c) The circumstances under which the Court Administrator will deny, suspend or refuse to renew a certificate.

(d) The circumstances under which the Court Administrator will take disciplinary action against a certified court interpreter or an alternate court interpreter.

(e) The circumstances under which a court may appoint an alternate court interpreter.

(f) Except as otherwise provided in NRS 50.050, the rate and source of the compensation to be paid for services provided by a certified court interpreter or an alternate court interpreter.

3. An application for a certificate as a court interpreter pursuant to paragraph (a) of subsection 1 must include the social security number of the applicant.

4. *Every applicant for certification as a court interpreter or appointment as an alternate court interpreter pursuant to subsection 1 must submit with his or her application:*

*(a) A complete set of his or her fingerprints; and*

*(b) Written permission authorizing the Court Administrator to forward the fingerprints to the Central Repository for Nevada Records of Criminal History for its initial report on the criminal history of the applicant and for reports thereafter upon renewal of the certification, and for submission to the Federal Bureau of Investigation for its report on the criminal history of the applicant.*

5. Except as otherwise provided by a specific regulation of the Court Administrator, it is grounds for disciplinary action for a certified court interpreter or an alternate court interpreter to act as interpreter in any action in which:

(a) The spouse of the court interpreter is a party;

(b) A party or witness is otherwise related to the court interpreter;

(c) The court interpreter is biased for or against one of the parties; or

(d) The court interpreter otherwise has an interest in the outcome of the proceeding.

~~5.1~~ 6. The criteria and procedures established pursuant to paragraph (b) of subsection 1 must set forth an order of preference, subject to the direction of a court for the appointment of a certified court interpreter before an alternate court interpreter.



~~16.1~~ 7. As used in this section, “person with a language barrier” means a person who speaks a language other than English and who cannot readily understand or communicate in the English language.

**Sec. 2.** This act becomes effective upon passage and approval.



