

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to qualifications for interpreters;
 3 creating s. 1012.441, F.S.; requiring the State Board
 4 of Education to establish standards for interpreters;
 5 requiring school districts to notify parents if the
 6 individual providing interpreter services does not
 7 meet the standards; requiring school districts to
 8 report to the Department of Education information
 9 regarding interpreters; providing an effective date.

10

11 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

12

13 Section 1. Section 1012.441, Florida Statutes, is created
 14 to read:

15 1012.441 – Qualifications for Educational Interpreters.

16 (1) The State Board of Education shall adopt in rule
 17 standards for individuals who facilitate direct instruction from
 18 professionals and direct communication between students who are
 19 deaf or hard of hearing and their peers as designated in a
 20 student's individual education plan or 504 accommodation plan.
 21 The standards must include interpreter assessments that include
 22 both written and performance assessment and that are offered by
 23 a national organization of professional sign language
 24 interpreters and transliterators.

25 (2) Beginning July 1, 2017, each school district shall:

26 (a) Notify a parent in writing if an individual assigned to

PCS for HB 705

ORIGINAL

2016

27 provide interpretation services to a student, in accordance with
28 the student's individual education plan or 504 accommodation
29 plan, does not meet the educational interpreter standards
30 established in state board rule.

31 (b) Report to the Department of Education, for publication
32 on its website, the total number of individuals providing
33 interpretation services in the district, and the number of those
34 interpreters that meet the educational interpreter standards
35 established in state board rule.

36 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2016.