

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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129th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2020

Legislative Document

No. 2138

S.P. 770

In Senate, March 5, 2020

An Act To Amend the American Sign Language Interpreters Licensing Laws

Reference to the Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D M Grant'.

DAREK M. GRANT
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator HERBIG of Waldo. (GOVERNOR'S BILL)

1 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

2 **Sec. 1. 32 MRSA §1524-C, sub-§2**, as enacted by PL 2019, c. 284, §12, is
3 repealed.

4 **Sec. 2. 32 MRSA §1524-C, sub-§3** is enacted to read:

5 **3. Proof of education and training in the interpreting process.** Documented
6 proof of the following:

7 **A. At least one of the following:**

8 (1) An associate degree or higher in American Sign Language, American Sign
9 Language interpreting or deaf studies from an accredited college or university; or

10 (2) For persons holding a limited license that is current on the effective date of
11 this section, an alternative pathway approved by the Registry of Interpreters for
12 the Deaf, Inc. or a comparable or successor organization recognized by the
13 director; and

14 **B. At least one of the following:**

15 (1) A passing score on a national interpreter certification knowledge exam; or

16 (2) A passing score on a certified deaf interpreter knowledge exam administered
17 by an organization that assesses language interpretation recognized by the
18 director.

19 **SUMMARY**

20 This bill amends the American Sign Language interpreters licensing laws to clarify
21 the requirements for licensure as a conditional interpreter or conditional deaf interpreter.