

Multiple Agency Fiscal Note Summary

Bill Number: 5995	Title: Creating a professional license for spoken language interpreters and translators.
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Estimated Cash Receipts

Agency Name	2023-25			2025-27			2027-29		
	GF-State	NGF-Outlook	Total	GF-State	NGF-Outlook	Total	GF-State	NGF-Outlook	Total
Office of Attorney General	0	0	39,000	0	0	57,000	0	0	42,000
Washington State Health Care Authority	Non-zero but indeterminate cost and/or savings. Please see discussion.								
Department of Licensing	0	0	6,140,000	0	0	3,866,000	0	0	3,230,000
Total \$	0	0	6,179,000	0	0	3,923,000	0	0	3,272,000

Agency Name	2023-25		2025-27		2027-29	
	GF- State	Total	GF- State	Total	GF- State	Total

Estimated Operating Expenditures

Agency Name	2023-25				2025-27				2027-29			
	FTEs	GF-State	NGF-Outlook	Total	FTEs	GF-State	NGF-Outlook	Total	FTEs	GF-State	NGF-Outlook	Total
Office of Attorney General	.1	0	0	39,000	.2	0	0	57,000	.1	0	0	42,000
Washington State Health Care Authority	Non-zero but indeterminate cost and/or savings. Please see discussion.											
Office of Administrative Hearings	.0	0	0	0	.0	0	0	0	.0	0	0	0
Department of Enterprise Services	.0	0	0	0	.0	0	0	0	.0	0	0	0
Department of Labor and Industries	.0	0	0	0	.0	0	0	0	.0	0	0	0
Department of Licensing	6.3	0	0	6,140,000	11.5	0	0	3,866,000	11.5	0	0	3,230,000
Department of Social and Health Services	.0	0	0	0	.0	0	0	0	.0	0	0	0
Department of Children, Youth, and Families	.0	0	0	0	.0	0	0	0	.0	0	0	0
Superintendent of Public Instruction	.0	0	0	0	.0	0	0	0	.0	0	0	0
Total \$	6.4	0	0	6,179,000	11.7	0	0	3,923,000	11.6	0	0	3,272,000

Estimated Capital Budget Expenditures

Agency Name	2023-25			2025-27			2027-29		
	FTEs	Bonds	Total	FTEs	Bonds	Total	FTEs	Bonds	Total
Office of Attorney General	.0	0	0	.0	0	0	.0	0	0
Washington State Health Care Authority	.0	0	0	.0	0	0	.0	0	0
Office of Administrative Hearings	.0	0	0	.0	0	0	.0	0	0
Department of Enterprise Services	.0	0	0	.0	0	0	.0	0	0
Department of Labor and Industries	.0	0	0	.0	0	0	.0	0	0
Department of Licensing	.0	0	0	.0	0	0	.0	0	0
Department of Social and Health Services	.0	0	0	.0	0	0	.0	0	0
Department of Children, Youth, and Families	.0	0	0	.0	0	0	.0	0	0
Superintendent of Public Instruction	.0	0	0	.0	0	0	.0	0	0
Total \$	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0

Estimated Capital Budget Breakout

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Prepared by: Kyle Siefering, OFM	Phone: (360) 995-3825	Date Published: Final 1/14/2024
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Individual State Agency Fiscal Note

Revised

Bill Number: 5995	Title: Creating a professional license for spoken language interpreters and translators.	Agency: 100-Office of Attorney General
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Part I: Estimates

No Fiscal Impact

Estimated Cash Receipts to:

ACCOUNT	FY 2024	FY 2025	2023-25	2025-27	2027-29
Legal Services Revolving Account-State 405-1		39,000	39,000	57,000	42,000
Total \$		39,000	39,000	57,000	42,000

Estimated Operating Expenditures from:

ACCOUNT	FY 2024	FY 2025	2023-25	2025-27	2027-29
FTE Staff Years	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.1
Account					
Legal Services Revolving Account-State 405-1	0	39,000	39,000	57,000	42,000
Total \$	0	39,000	39,000	57,000	42,000

Estimated Capital Budget Impact:

NONE

The cash receipts and expenditure estimates on this page represent the most likely fiscal impact. Factors impacting the precision of these estimates, and alternate ranges (if appropriate), are explained in Part II.

Check applicable boxes and follow corresponding instructions:

- If fiscal impact is greater than \$50,000 per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete entire fiscal note form Parts I-V.
- If fiscal impact is less than \$50,000 per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete this page only (Part I).
- Capital budget impact, complete Part IV.
- Requires new rule making, complete Part V.

Legislative Contact: Madeline Ralstin	Phone: 360-786-7356	Date: 12/28/2023
Agency Preparation: Dan Jensen	Phone: 360-664-9429	Date: 01/09/2024
Agency Approval: Edd Giger	Phone: 360-586-2104	Date: 01/09/2024
OFM Review: Val Terre	Phone: (360) 280-3973	Date: 01/10/2024

Part II: Narrative Explanation

II. A - Brief Description Of What The Measure Does That Has Fiscal Impact

Significant provisions of the bill and any related workload or policy assumptions that have revenue or expenditure impact on the responding agency by section number.

Bill Summary:

Section 1 – New Section. Findings and intent.

Section 2 – New Section. Definitions.

Section 3 – New Section. Requires the Department of Licensing (DOL) to adopt rules to implement this chapter and to establish examination and licensing procedures for spoken language interpreters and translators licensed under this chapter.

Section 4 – New Section. Imposes additional examination and testing requirements on DOL.

Section 5 – New Section. Allows other spoken language interpreters and translation service providers currently licensed or authorized under other state laws to continue to provide such services.

Section 6 – New Section. Prohibits individuals from holding themselves out as “licensed interpreters” unless they hold a valid license under this chapter or are currently authorized in other state statutes.

Section 7 – New Section. Gives certain healthcare interpreters with active certifications eligibility for licensure without examination. Provides additional licensure eligibility for individuals credentialed through the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS).

Section 8 – New Section. Sets forth minimum requirements for licensure and gives DOL additional rulemaking authority.

Section 9 – New Section. Allows for sharing data among DOL and other administrative agencies, including DSHS, the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC), the Professional Educator Standards Board (PESB), and the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI).

Section 10 – New Section. Establishes a licensed interpreter and translator advisory committee and sets forth the required membership.

Section 11 – New Section. Directs that the Uniform Regulation of Business and Professions Act governs unlicensed practice, issuance and denial of licenses, and discipline of licenses.

Section 12 – Amends RCW 43.24.150 to create an account for interpreters and translators.

Section 13 – Amends RCW 74.04.025.

Section 14 – Amends RCW 74.04.025 to remove old interpreter certification language.

Section 15 – New Section. Places Sections 1 through 11 of this act in a new chapter in Title 18 RCW.

Section 16 – New Section. Specifies that Section 13 expires on December 31, 2024.

Section 17 – New Section. Provides that Section 14 takes effect on January 1, 2025.

II. B - Cash receipts Impact

Cash receipts impact of the legislation on the responding agency with the cash receipts provisions identified by section number and when appropriate, the detail of the revenue sources. Description of the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the cash receipts impact is derived. Explanation of how workload assumptions translate into estimates. Distinguished between one time and ongoing functions.

Cash receipts are assumed to equal the Legal Services Revolving Account (LSRA) cost estimates. These will be billed through the revolving account to the client agency.

The client agency is the Department of Licensing (DOL). The Attorney General's Office (AGO) will bill all clients for legal services rendered.

These cash receipts represent the AGO's authority to bill and are not a direct appropriation to the AGO. The direct appropriation is reflected in the client agency's fiscal note. Appropriation authority is necessary in the AGO budget.

AGO AGENCY ASSUMPTIONS:

DOL will be billed for King County rates:

FY 2025: \$39,000 for 0.1 Assistant Attorney General FTE (AAG) and 0.1 Paralegal FTE (PL), which includes direct litigation costs of \$300.

FY 2026: \$36,000 for 0.1 AAG, 0.1 PL, which includes direct litigation costs of \$300.

FY 2027 and in each FY thereafter: \$21,000 for 0.1 AAG and 0.04 PL, which includes direct litigation costs of \$300.

II. C - Expenditures

Agency expenditures necessary to implement this legislation (or savings resulting from this legislation), with the provisions of the legislation that result in the expenditures (or savings) identified by section number. Description of the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the expenditure impact is derived. Explanation of how workload assumptions translate into cost estimates. Distinguished between one time and ongoing functions.

Attorney General's Office (AGO) Agency Assumptions:

Legal services associated with the enactment of this bill will begin on January 1, 2025 (FY 2025).

Location of staffing is assumed to be in a King County office building.

Total workload impact in this request includes standard assumption costs for goods & services, travel, and capital outlays for all FTE identified.

Agency administration support FTE are included in the tables. The Management Analyst 5 FTE (MA), is used as a representative classification. An example ratio is for every 1.0 Assistant Attorney General FTE (AAG), the AGO includes 0.5 Paralegal 1 FTE (PL) and 0.4 MA.

1. Assumptions for the AGO Licensing & Administrative Law Division (LAL) Legal Services for the Department of Licensing (DOL).

The AGO will bill DOL for legal services based on the enactment of this bill.

This bill would create a new professional licensing program within DOL for the testing, licensure, and regulation of language interpreters and translators.

DOL would be required to adopt rules governing the license qualifications, license application process, enforcement, and other matters. It would also require DOL to develop and administer examinations for licensure.

DOL will have to begin issuing licenses to qualified applicants beginning January 1, 2025.

DOL would be required to determine which other states, if any, have credentialing requirements equivalent to those

developed for WA and to issue licenses to applicants credentialed in those states without examination.

DOL would be required to create a 14-member advisory committee within the agency, as appointed by the DOL director, and to consult with the committee on issues related to interpreter and translator services.

DOL would be required to establish administrative procedures for appealing an examination failure; for revoking a license and for appeal thereof. The AGO anticipates approximately three appeals from licensing decisions requiring 40 AAG hours each to provide litigation support and representation to DOL. DOL will also require 120 hours of client advice during FY 2025 and 100 hours in FY 2026.

After program launch, legal services will be needed on an ongoing basis for advice and defending orders denying applications or suspending/revoking licenses, and perhaps with drafting statements of charges.

DOL would be required to, on an ongoing basis, “evaluate language access within the state to ensure Washingtonians are able to participate in the programs, activities, and services offered by businesses and government agencies.”

LAL: Total King County workload impact:

FY 2025: \$39,000 for 0.1 AAG and 0.1 PL, which includes direct litigation costs of \$300.

FY 2026: \$36,000 for 0.1 AAG and 0.1 PL, which includes direct litigation costs of \$300.

FY 2027 and in each FY thereafter: \$21,000 for 0.1 AAG and 0.04 PL, which includes direct litigation costs of \$300.

2. The AGO Education Division (EDU) has reviewed this bill and determined it will not significantly increase or decrease the division’s workload in representing the Office of the Superintendent (OSPI) or the Professional Educator Standards Board (PESB). New legal services are nominal and costs are not included in this request.

3. The AGO Administration Division (ADM) has reviewed this bill and determined it will not increase or decrease the division’s workload. Therefore, no costs are included in this request.

4. The AGO Transportation and Public Construction Division (TPC) has reviewed this bill and determined it will not significantly increase or decrease the division’s workload in representing the Department of Enterprise Services (DES). DES is to appoint a member to the advisory commission. New legal services are nominal and costs are not included in this request.

5. The AGO Labor and Industries Division (LNI) has reviewed this bill and determined it will not significantly increase or decrease the division’s workload in representing the Department of labor and Industries (L&I). Under the bill L&I is to appoint a member of an advisory commission. LNI does not anticipate that L&I will seek significant legal advice in connection with that work. L&I is also a consumer of interpreter services but does not hold any regulatory responsibilities under this bill. New legal services are nominal and costs are not included in this request.

6. The AGO Social & Health Services Division (SHO) has reviewed this bill and determined it will not increase or decrease the division’s workload in representing the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS). DSHS’s specific legal obligations to ensure that clients are provided adequate language access services will remain pursuant to the 1991 consent order in *Reyes v. Thompson*. Therefore, no costs are included in this request.

7. The AGO Children, Youth and Families Division (CYF) has reviewed this bill and determined it will not increase or decrease the division’s workload. The bill would require the Department of Licensing (DOL) to post online a resource page. This would included links to information that must be maintained by the relevant state agency on the number of requests for spoken language interpreter services that went unfilled for DCYF and other state agencies. DCYF does not have any regulatory responsibilities under this bill. Therefore, no costs are included in this request.

8. The AGO Revenue and Finance Division (REV) has reviewed this bill and determined it will not increase or decrease the

division’s workload representing the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH). This bill will not result in a higher volume of administrative appeals or require OAH to draft rules. OAH does not anticipate this legislation will impact the number of interpreters it uses in its administrative hearings or require additional legal advice from our office. Therefore, no costs are included in this request.

Part III: Expenditure Detail

III. A - Operating Budget Expenditures

Account	Account Title	Type	FY 2024	FY 2025	2023-25	2025-27	2027-29
405-1	Legal Services Revolving Account	State	0	39,000	39,000	57,000	42,000
Total \$			0	39,000	39,000	57,000	42,000

III. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose

	FY 2024	FY 2025	2023-25	2025-27	2027-29
FTE Staff Years		0.2	0.1	0.2	0.1
A-Salaries and Wages		27,000	27,000	40,000	30,000
B-Employee Benefits		8,000	8,000	11,000	8,000
C-Professional Service Contracts					
E-Goods and Other Services		4,000	4,000	6,000	4,000
G-Travel					
J-Capital Outlays					
M-Inter Agency/Fund Transfers					
N-Grants, Benefits & Client Services					
P-Debt Service					
S-Interagency Reimbursements					
T-Intra-Agency Reimbursements					
9-					
Total \$	0	39,000	39,000	57,000	42,000

III. C - Operating FTE Detail: *List FTEs by classification and corresponding annual compensation. Totals need to agree with total FTEs in Part I and Part IIIA*

Job Classification	Salary	FY 2024	FY 2025	2023-25	2025-27	2027-29
Assistant Attorney General-King Co	139,622		0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Management Analyst 5	98,040		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Paralegal 1-King Co	74,704		0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0
Total FTEs			0.2	0.1	0.2	0.1

III. D - Expenditures By Program (optional)

Program	FY 2024	FY 2025	2023-25	2025-27	2027-29
Licensing & Administrative Law Division (LAL)		39,000	39,000	57,000	42,000
Total \$		39,000	39,000	57,000	42,000

Part IV: Capital Budget Impact

IV. A - Capital Budget Expenditures

NONE

IV. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose

NONE

IV. C - Capital Budget Breakout

Acquisition and construction costs not reflected elsewhere on the fiscal note and description of potential financing methods.

NONE

IV. D - Capital FTE Detail: *FTEs listed by classification and corresponding annual compensation. Totals agree with total FTEs in Part IVB.*

NONE

Part V: New Rule Making Required

Provisions of the bill that require the agency to adopt new administrative rules or repeal/revise existing rules.

Individual State Agency Fiscal Note

Bill Number: 5995	Title: Creating a professional license for spoken language interpreters and translators.	Agency: 107-Washington State Health Care Authority
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Part I: Estimates

No Fiscal Impact

Estimated Cash Receipts to:

Non-zero but indeterminate cost and/or savings. Please see discussion.

Estimated Operating Expenditures from:

Non-zero but indeterminate cost and/or savings. Please see discussion.

Estimated Capital Budget Impact:

NONE

The cash receipts and expenditure estimates on this page represent the most likely fiscal impact. Factors impacting the precision of these estimates, and alternate ranges (if appropriate), are explained in Part II.

Check applicable boxes and follow corresponding instructions:

- If fiscal impact is greater than \$50,000 per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete entire fiscal note form Parts I-V.
- If fiscal impact is less than \$50,000 per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete this page only (Part I).
- Capital budget impact, complete Part IV.
- Requires new rule making, complete Part V.

Legislative Contact: Madeline Ralstin	Phone: 360-786-7356	Date: 12/28/2023
Agency Preparation: Lena Johnson	Phone: 360-725-5295	Date: 01/12/2024
Agency Approval: Carl Yanagida	Phone: 360-725-5755	Date: 01/12/2024
OFM Review: Jason Brown	Phone: (360) 742-7277	Date: 01/12/2024

Part II: Narrative Explanation

II. A - Brief Description Of What The Measure Does That Has Fiscal Impact

Significant provisions of the bill and any related workload or policy assumptions that have revenue or expenditure impact on the responding agency by section number.

See attached.

II. B - Cash receipts Impact

Cash receipts impact of the legislation on the responding agency with the cash receipts provisions identified by section number and when appropriate, the detail of the revenue sources. Description of the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the cash receipts impact is derived. Explanation of how workload assumptions translate into estimates. Distinguished between one time and ongoing functions.

II. C - Expenditures

Agency expenditures necessary to implement this legislation (or savings resulting from this legislation), with the provisions of the legislation that result in the expenditures (or savings) identified by section number. Description of the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the expenditure impact is derived. Explanation of how workload assumptions translate into cost estimates. Distinguished between one time and ongoing functions.

Part III: Expenditure Detail

III. A - Operating Budget Expenditures

Non-zero but indeterminate cost and/or savings. Please see discussion.

III. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose

Non-zero but indeterminate cost and/or savings. Please see discussion.

III. C - Operating FTE Detail: *FTEs listed by classification and corresponding annual compensation. Totals agree with total FTEs in Part I and Part IIIA.*

NONE

III. D - Expenditures By Program (optional)

NONE

Part IV: Capital Budget Impact

IV. A - Capital Budget Expenditures

NONE

IV. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose

NONE

IV. C - Capital Budget Breakout

Acquisition and construction costs not reflected elsewhere on the fiscal note and description of potential financing methods.

NONE

IV. D - Capital FTE Detail: *FTEs listed by classification and corresponding annual compensation. Totals agree with total FTEs in Part IVB.*

NONE

Part V: New Rule Making Required

Provisions of the bill that require the agency to adopt new administrative rules or repeal/revise existing rules.

HCA Fiscal Note

Bill Number: **5995 SB**
Translators

HCA Request #: 24-003

Title: **License for Interpreters-**

Part I: Estimates

No Fiscal Impact

Estimated Cash Receipts to:

NONE

Estimated Operating Expenditures from:

NONE

Estimated Capital Budget Impact:

NONE

The cash receipts and expenditure estimates on this page represent the most likely fiscal impact. Factors impacting the precision of these estimates, and alternate ranges (if appropriate), are explained in Part II.

Check applicable boxes and follow corresponding instructions:

- If fiscal impact is greater than \$50,000 per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete entire fiscal note form Parts I-V.
- If fiscal impact is less than \$50,000 per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete this page only (Part I).
- Capital budget impact, complete Part IV.
- Requires new rule making, complete Part V.

HCA Fiscal Note

Bill Number: **5995 SB**
Translators

HCA Request #: 24-003

Title: **License for Interpreters-**

Part II: Narrative Explanation

II. A - Brief Description Of What The Measure Does That Has Fiscal Impact

Significant provisions of the bill and any related workload or policy assumptions that have revenue or expenditure impact on the responding agency by section number.

AN ACT Relating to creating a professional license for spoken language interpreters and translators; amending RCW 43.24.150, 74.04.025, and 74.04.025; adding a new chapter to Title 18 RCW; providing an effective date; and providing an expiration date.

If enacted, this bill would require spoken language interpreters and translators to have a professional license. The bill amends RCW 43.24.150, 74.04.25 and adds a new chapter to title 18 RCW, providing an effective and expiration date. If enacted, Effective 01.01.2026, it will be unlawful to use the term "licensed interpreter/translator" unless licensed by the Department of Licensing (DOL). Some of the new sections created by this bill include but are not limited to:

Sec 1:

- (1): Adds language on the increase of Washington (WA) state residents who speak a language other than English at home.
- (2): States that inadequate interpreters for Limited English Proficiency (LEP) injured workers and Medicaid enrollees potentially increase liability risk for health care providers and negative health outcomes.
- (3): Adds that business and government agencies across WA need professional language services for their clients with LEP.
- (4): Displays the purpose of this bill, which is to create a professional licensing program for spoken language interpreters and translators to protect consumers and Washingtonians.

Sec 7:

- (2) (a): Prior to January 1, 2025, if individuals have an active interpreter/translator credential issued by the Department of Social & Health Services (DSHS), they are eligible for licensure renewal before the expiration date of their current credential without examination. (c) – Individuals with certification in Cambodian or Laotian under DSHS are eligible for renewal as a licensed certified interpreters regardless if DOL is offering certification in these specific languages.
- (3) By July 1, 2024, DSHS must transmit to DOL all materials related to interpreters/translators certified and authorized by DSHS.

Sec 8: DOL must establish the requirements/fees for renewal of license.

Sec 9: (3) Refers to data sharing DOL must post online resources and interpreter services that went unfilled for HCA, and procurement process in RCW 39.26.300

- Currently, there are no professional licensing requirements for interpreters. This bill impacts the Health Care Authority (HCA) Interpreter Services Program directly, in it's ability to have access to an interpreter pool who meets the license requirements. It does not establish whether out of state interpreters must also

HCA Fiscal Note

Bill Number: **5995 SB**
Translators

HCA Request #: 24-003

Title: **License for Interpreters-**

hold a WA DOL license in order to provide services in-state, such as through phone or video-based technology.

- There may be some conflict with the Washington Federation of State Employees (WFSE) Interpreters United Language Access Providers Collective Bargaining Agreement.

II. B - Cash Receipts Impact

Cash receipts impact of the legislation on the responding agency with the cash receipts provisions identified by section number and when appropriate, the detail of the revenue sources. Description of the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the cash receipts impact is derived. Explanation of how workload assumptions translate into estimates. Distinguish between one time and ongoing functions.

NONE

II. C – Expenditures

Agency expenditures necessary to implement this legislation (or savings resulting from this legislation), with the provisions of the legislation that result in the expenditures (or savings) identified by section number. Description of the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the expenditure impact is derived. Explanation of how workload assumptions translate into cost estimates. Distinguish between one time and ongoing functions.

Indeterminate fiscal impact.

HCA is unable to determine the fiscal impact of this bill because it will change the current certification and licensing process for interpreters. Currently, HCA utilizes interpreters that are certified, but not licensed. HCA could be placed in a position where it will need to negotiate with the union about the additional licensing costs to its members. It is also unclear if HCA would be responsible for reimbursing its bilingual staff for potential licensing fees. CMS considers license fees borne by the applicant, not by the Medicaid program, but in other instances, the General Fund has helped reimburse or mitigate expenses for certain providers.

There is also a high probability that these changes will reduce the number of interpreters who can deliver services, which may increase costs to find other ways to ensure adequate network.

Part III: Expenditure Detail

III. A - Operating Budget Expenditure

NONE

HCA Fiscal Note

Bill Number: **5995 SB**
Translators

HCA Request #: 24-003

Title: **License for Interpreters-**

III. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose

NONE

III. C - Operating FTE Detail: FTEs listed by classification and corresponding annual compensation. Totals agree with total FTEs in Part I and Part IIIA.

NONE

III. D - Expenditures By Program (optional)

NONE

Part IV: Capital Budget Impact

IV. A - Capital Budget Expenditures

NONE

IV. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose

NONE

IV. C - Capital Budget Breakout: Acquisition and construction costs not reflected elsewhere on the fiscal note and description of potential financing methods.

NONE

IV. D - Capital FTE Detail: FTEs listed by classification and corresponding annual compensation. Totals agree with total FTEs in Part IVB.

NONE

Part V: New Rule Making Required

Provisions of the bill that require the agency to adopt new administrative rules or repeal/revise existing rules.

NONE

Individual State Agency Fiscal Note

Bill Number: 5995	Title: Creating a professional license for spoken language interpreters and translators.	Agency: 110-Office of Administrative Hearings
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Part I: Estimates

No Fiscal Impact

Estimated Cash Receipts to:

NONE

Estimated Operating Expenditures from:

NONE

Estimated Capital Budget Impact:

NONE

The cash receipts and expenditure estimates on this page represent the most likely fiscal impact. Factors impacting the precision of these estimates, and alternate ranges (if appropriate), are explained in Part II.

Check applicable boxes and follow corresponding instructions:

- If fiscal impact is greater than \$50,000 per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete entire fiscal note form Parts I-V.
- If fiscal impact is less than \$50,000 per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete this page only (Part I).
- Capital budget impact, complete Part IV.
- Requires new rule making, complete Part V.

Legislative Contact: Madeline Ralstin	Phone: 360-786-7356	Date: 12/28/2023
Agency Preparation: Pete Boeckel	Phone: 360-407-2730	Date: 01/03/2024
Agency Approval: Rob Cotton	Phone: 360-407-2708	Date: 01/03/2024
OFM Review: Val Terre	Phone: (360) 280-3973	Date: 01/08/2024

Part II: Narrative Explanation

II. A - Brief Description Of What The Measure Does That Has Fiscal Impact

Significant provisions of the bill and any related workload or policy assumptions that have revenue or expenditure impact on the responding agency by section number.

No fiscal impact. This legislation will not measurably increase the appeal workload for the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH).

Under the strict language of the bill, nothing in the bill should impact how OAH procures interpreters or translators. Although the bill creates a path for interpreters and translators to acquire a professional license, the bill does not prohibit unlicensed interpreters and translators from operating in Washington State. Similarly, bilingual staff at OAH would not be required to have a license.

II. B - Cash receipts Impact

Cash receipts impact of the legislation on the responding agency with the cash receipts provisions identified by section number and when appropriate, the detail of the revenue sources. Description of the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the cash receipts impact is derived. Explanation of how workload assumptions translate into estimates. Distinguished between one time and ongoing functions.

II. C - Expenditures

Agency expenditures necessary to implement this legislation (or savings resulting from this legislation), with the provisions of the legislation that result in the expenditures (or savings) identified by section number. Description of the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the expenditure impact is derived. Explanation of how workload assumptions translate into cost estimates. Distinguished between one time and ongoing functions.

Part III: Expenditure Detail

III. A - Operating Budget Expenditures

NONE

III. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose

NONE

III. C - Operating FTE Detail: *FTEs listed by classification and corresponding annual compensation. Totals agree with total FTEs in Part I and Part IIIA.*

NONE

III. D - Expenditures By Program (optional)

NONE

Part IV: Capital Budget Impact

IV. A - Capital Budget Expenditures

NONE

IV. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose

NONE

IV. C - Capital Budget Breakout

Acquisition and construction costs not reflected elsewhere on the fiscal note and description of potential financing methods.

NONE

IV. D - Capital FTE Detail: *FTEs listed by classification and corresponding annual compensation. Totals agree with total FTEs in Part IVB.*

NONE

Part V: New Rule Making Required

Provisions of the bill that require the agency to adopt new administrative rules or repeal/revise existing rules.

Individual State Agency Fiscal Note

Bill Number: 5995	Title: Creating a professional license for spoken language interpreters and translators.	Agency: 179-Department of Enterprise Services
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Part I: Estimates

No Fiscal Impact

Estimated Cash Receipts to:

NONE

Estimated Operating Expenditures from:

NONE

Estimated Capital Budget Impact:

NONE

The cash receipts and expenditure estimates on this page represent the most likely fiscal impact. Factors impacting the precision of these estimates, and alternate ranges (if appropriate), are explained in Part II.

Check applicable boxes and follow corresponding instructions:

- If fiscal impact is greater than \$50,000 per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete entire fiscal note form Parts I-V.
- If fiscal impact is less than \$50,000 per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete this page only (Part I).
- Capital budget impact, complete Part IV.
- Requires new rule making, complete Part V.

Legislative Contact: Madeline Ralstin	Phone: 360-786-7356	Date: 12/28/2023
Agency Preparation: Julie McVey	Phone: (360) 407-9334	Date: 01/08/2024
Agency Approval: Jessica Goodwin	Phone: (360) 819-3719	Date: 01/08/2024
OFM Review: Val Terre	Phone: (360) 280-3973	Date: 01/09/2024

Part II: Narrative Explanation

II. A - Brief Description Of What The Measure Does That Has Fiscal Impact

Significant provisions of the bill and any related workload or policy assumptions that have revenue or expenditure impact on the responding agency by section number.

This bill adds a new chapter to Title 18 RCW and amends RCW 43.24.150 and RCW 74.04.025 which creates a professional licensing program for spoken language interpreters and translators.

Section 10 (1) requires that a licensed interpreter and translator advisory committee be created within the Department of Licensing (DOL) on January 1, 2026. The committee will consist of 14 members, including one member from the Department of Enterprise Services (DES).

Section 10 (2) states that the committee member from DES must be appointed by the director of DES and then referred to DOL for appointment to the committee. Committee members must be familiar with the practice of spoken language interpreter services and able to provide DOL with expertise in carrying out the duties of this chapter.

Section 10 (3) adds that DOL must regularly consult with the advisory committee on issues related to interpreter and translator licensure and renewal.

The duties associated with this committee can be performed using existing resources.

There is no fiscal impact to the Department of Enterprise Services.

II. B - Cash receipts Impact

Cash receipts impact of the legislation on the responding agency with the cash receipts provisions identified by section number and when appropriate, the detail of the revenue sources. Description of the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the cash receipts impact is derived. Explanation of how workload assumptions translate into estimates. Distinguished between one time and ongoing functions.

II. C - Expenditures

Agency expenditures necessary to implement this legislation (or savings resulting from this legislation), with the provisions of the legislation that result in the expenditures (or savings) identified by section number. Description of the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the expenditure impact is derived. Explanation of how workload assumptions translate into cost estimates. Distinguished between one time and ongoing functions.

Part III: Expenditure Detail

III. A - Operating Budget Expenditures

NONE

III. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose

NONE

III. C - Operating FTE Detail: *FTEs listed by classification and corresponding annual compensation. Totals agree with total FTEs in Part I and Part IIIA.*

NONE

III. D - Expenditures By Program (optional)

NONE

Part IV: Capital Budget Impact

IV. A - Capital Budget Expenditures

NONE

IV. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose

NONE

IV. C - Capital Budget Breakout

Acquisition and construction costs not reflected elsewhere on the fiscal note and description of potential financing methods.

NONE

IV. D - Capital FTE Detail: *FTEs listed by classification and corresponding annual compensation. Totals agree with total FTEs in Part IVB.*

NONE

Part V: New Rule Making Required

Provisions of the bill that require the agency to adopt new administrative rules or repeal/revise existing rules.

Individual State Agency Fiscal Note

Bill Number: 5995	Title: Creating a professional license for spoken language interpreters and translators.	Agency: 235-Department of Labor and Industries
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Part I: Estimates

No Fiscal Impact

Estimated Cash Receipts to:

NONE

Estimated Operating Expenditures from:

NONE

Estimated Capital Budget Impact:

NONE

The cash receipts and expenditure estimates on this page represent the most likely fiscal impact. Factors impacting the precision of these estimates, and alternate ranges (if appropriate), are explained in Part II.

Check applicable boxes and follow corresponding instructions:

- If fiscal impact is greater than \$50,000 per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete entire fiscal note form Parts I-V.
- If fiscal impact is less than \$50,000 per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete this page only (Part I).
- Capital budget impact, complete Part IV.
- Requires new rule making, complete Part V.

Legislative Contact: Madeline Ralstin	Phone: 360-786-7356	Date: 12/28/2023
Agency Preparation: Donald Jenson Jr	Phone: 360-902-6981	Date: 01/08/2024
Agency Approval: Trent Howard	Phone: 360-902-6698	Date: 01/08/2024
OFM Review: Anna Minor	Phone: (360) 790-2951	Date: 01/08/2024

Part II: Narrative Explanation

II. A - Brief Description Of What The Measure Does That Has Fiscal Impact

Significant provisions of the bill and any related workload or policy assumptions that have revenue or expenditure impact on the responding agency by section number.

The bill directs Department of Licensing (DOL) to create a new language testing and licensing program and create a professional license for spoken language interpreters and translators by amending RCW 43.24.150, RCW 74.04.025, and adding a new chapter to Title 18 RCW. This new language testing and licensing program will replace the language testing and credentialing authority previously given to the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) under RCW 74.04.025.

II. B - Cash receipts Impact

Cash receipts impact of the legislation on the responding agency with the cash receipts provisions identified by section number and when appropriate, the detail of the revenue sources. Description of the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the cash receipts impact is derived. Explanation of how workload assumptions translate into estimates. Distinguished between one time and ongoing functions.

None.

II. C - Expenditures

Agency expenditures necessary to implement this legislation (or savings resulting from this legislation), with the provisions of the legislation that result in the expenditures (or savings) identified by section number. Description of the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the expenditure impact is derived. Explanation of how workload assumptions translate into cost estimates. Distinguished between one time and ongoing functions.

The Department of Labor and Industries (L&I) will implement the bill with existing resources.

- L&I will need to update policies and procedures to replace the current interpreter credentialing requirements from DSHS certified/authorized interpreters and interpreters with Certification Commission for Healthcare Interpreters (CCHI) and the National Board of Certification for Medical Interpreters (NBCMI) to only allow the DOL licensed interpreters.

- L&I will share current data specific to unfilled services with DOL and DOL will be required to post this information on their online resource page as stipulated in section 9 of the bill. This data is readily available and no additional resources are needed for L&I to generate these reports.

- Section 10(1e) requires an L&I representative to be a member of the new DOL advisory committee. L&I's Language Access program currently has a representative as part of the DSHS advisory committee for language access. This DSHS advisory committee will be concluded and a new member may be appointed for the new DOL committee effective January 1, 2026.

Part III: Expenditure Detail

III. A - Operating Budget Expenditures

NONE

III. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose

NONE

III. C - Operating FTE Detail: *FTEs listed by classification and corresponding annual compensation. Totals agree with total FTEs in Part I and Part IIIA.*

NONE

III. D - Expenditures By Program (optional)

NONE

Part IV: Capital Budget Impact

IV. A - Capital Budget Expenditures

NONE

IV. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose

NONE

IV. C - Capital Budget Breakout

Acquisition and construction costs not reflected elsewhere on the fiscal note and description of potential financing methods.

NONE

IV. D - Capital FTE Detail: *FTEs listed by classification and corresponding annual compensation. Totals agree with total FTEs in Part IVB.*

NONE

None.

Part V: New Rule Making Required

Provisions of the bill that require the agency to adopt new administrative rules or repeal/revise existing rules.

Individual State Agency Fiscal Note

Bill Number: 5995	Title: Creating a professional license for spoken language interpreters and translators.	Agency: 240-Department of Licensing
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Part I: Estimates

No Fiscal Impact

Estimated Cash Receipts to:

ACCOUNT	FY 2024	FY 2025	2023-25	2025-27	2027-29
Business and Professions Account-State 06L-1		6,140,000	6,140,000	3,866,000	3,230,000
Total \$		6,140,000	6,140,000	3,866,000	3,230,000

Estimated Operating Expenditures from:

	FY 2024	FY 2025	2023-25	2025-27	2027-29
FTE Staff Years	0.0	12.5	6.3	11.5	11.5
Account					
Business and Professions Account-State 06L-1	0	6,140,000	6,140,000	3,866,000	3,230,000
Total \$	0	6,140,000	6,140,000	3,866,000	3,230,000

Estimated Capital Budget Impact:

NONE

The cash receipts and expenditure estimates on this page represent the most likely fiscal impact. Factors impacting the precision of these estimates, and alternate ranges (if appropriate), are explained in Part II.

Check applicable boxes and follow corresponding instructions:

- If fiscal impact is greater than \$50,000 per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete entire fiscal note form Parts I-V.
- If fiscal impact is less than \$50,000 per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete this page only (Part I).
- Capital budget impact, complete Part IV.
- Requires new rule making, complete Part V.

Legislative Contact: Madeline Ralstin	Phone: 360-786-7356	Date: 12/28/2023
Agency Preparation: Gina Rogers	Phone: 360-634-5036	Date: 01/14/2024
Agency Approval: Collin Ashley	Phone: (564) 669-9190	Date: 01/14/2024
OFM Review: Kyle Siefering	Phone: (360) 995-3825	Date: 01/14/2024

Part II: Narrative Explanation

II. A - Brief Description Of What The Measure Does That Has Fiscal Impact

Significant provisions of the bill and any related workload or policy assumptions that have revenue or expenditure impact on the responding agency by section number.

This bill creates a new licensed profession for interpreters and translators.

Per RCW 43.24.086, the cost of administering professional and business licensing programs must be funded by those industry's licensing fees. Cash receipt impacts are driven by fee increases to satisfy this requirement.

Section 2- New Section

- Provides new definitions:
 - o “Advisory committee” means the committee on interpreting created in Section 10
 - o “Interpreter” means an individual who interprets spoken languages and is licensed by Department of Licensing (DOL)
 - ? “Medical interpreter” means this person has received a medical endorsement
 - ? “Social services interpreter” means this person has received a social services endorsement
 - ? “Licensed certified interpreter” means this person has passed an exam of the individual’s oral transfer skills in at least 2 of the following interpretation modes:
 - Simultaneous, consecutive, or sight
 - ? “Licensed authorized interpreter” means this person has passed an exam of the individual’s oral transfer skills that were tested in the sight and consecutive modes through back translation
 - o “Licensed translator” means an individual who translates spoken languages on written documents and is licensed by DOL

Section 3 – New Section

- Requires DOL to:
 - o Adopt rules to implement the chapter
 - o Establish exams and fees for licensing/renewals for licensed spoken language interpreters and translators
 - o Develop and administer exams for licensure (subject to Section 4)
 - o Establish forms and procedures to administer the chapter
 - o Issue licenses to applicants who meet the requirements beginning January 1, 2025
 - o Compile, maintain, and distribute a list of interpreters and translators licensed by DOL
 - o Provide staffing and administrative support to the advisory committee in Section 10
 - o Determine which states have equivalent requirements and issue licenses to those applicants without examination
 - o Adopt rules for license renewal including continuing education requirements by July 1, 2025
 - o Establish appeal procedures for exam failure by rule
 - o Establish procedure for license revocation and decision appeal by rule

Section 4 – New Section

- Requires DOL to initially adopt the tests created by the language and testing certification program at Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) under RCW 74.04.025
 - o Exams can only be updated after consulting with the advisory committee created in Section 10
- DOL must administer exams for licensed certified interpreters and licensed translators in at least:
 - o Cantonese Chinese, Mandarin Chinese, Korean, Russian, Spanish, and Vietnamese
- For languages which DOL does not offer certification licenses, DOL must administer exams for licensed authorized interpreters
- At minimum, DOL’s licensure for certified/authorized interpreters must provide for a medical or social services endorsement

Section 5 – New Section

- The chapter doesn’t restrict provision of spoken language interpretation and translation services by individuals licensed

under RCW 2.43, RCW 28A.183, or RCW 28A.410.271

Section 6 – New Section

- Beginning January 1, 2026 unlicensed individuals may not use the following titles:
 - o Licensed interpreter
- ? Unless they are currently authorized under chapter 2.43 or 28A.183 RCW or working as a bilingual employee under RCW 74.04.025
 - o Licensed translator

Section 7 – New Section

- Individuals with an active certification from the certification commission for healthcare interpreters or by the national board of certification for medical interpreters are eligible for licensure under this chapter without exam
- Individuals with a current interpreter or translator credential issued by DSHS prior to January 1, 2025 are eligible for license renewal under this chapter before the expiration date of their current credential
 - o Individuals who received a DSHS credential based on submittal of a passing score on a written exam administered by the certification commission for healthcare interpreters or the national board of certification for medical interpreters are not eligible for licensure renewal without passing DOLs exam
 - o Individuals with an active DSHS certification in Cambodian or Laotian are eligible for renewal as a licensed certified interpreter before the expiration of their credential regardless of whether DOL is offering certification in Cambodian or Laotian
- By July 1, 2024 DSHS must send all materials related to currently certified/authorized interpreters and translators to DOL

Section 8 – New Section

- DOL must establish the requirements and fees for license renewal by rule
- Requirements for renewal must include:
 - o Completion of continuing education, including education on ethics
 - o License renewal after 4 years
- ? Failure to renew invalidates the license and all privileges
- DOL must work with community colleges and other private/public educational institutions and organizations to encourage training and continuing education activities are available in eastern and western WA locations

Section 9 – New Section

- DOL may collaborate and data share with DSHS, AOC, the professional educator standards board, and OSPI as necessary to carry out licensure requirements
- By July 1, 2024 DSHS must send all data, materials, and technology from their language testing and certification program to DOL
 - o Including exam materials prior to March 1, 2020
 - o Materials for bilingual employee exams in compliance with RCW 74.04.025 don't need to be sent
- DOL must post an online resource page that includes information links maintained by relevant state agencies on the number of requests for spoken language interpreter services that went unfilled for DSHS, DCYF, HCA, LNI and the procurement process in RCW 39.26.300

Section 10 – New Section

- Establishes a licensed interpreter and translator advisory committee within DOL on January 1, 2026, consisting of 14 members
 - o 3 members must provide spoken language interpretation or translation services in WA who:
 - ? Were certified/registered by DSHS prior to January 1, 2025
 - ? Are licensed by DOL beginning January 1, 2025
 - o 1 member from a community organization that provides direct services to limited English speaking consumers
 - o 2 members who are a medical provider or represent organizations who utilize state-paid interpreter services to provide

health care services to injured workers or Medicaid enrollees

- o 3 members representing an exclusive collective bargaining representative of spoken language interpreters
- ? They may represent the same union
- o 1 member each from the Office of Equity, DSHS, HCA, LNI, and DES
- DOL must appoint all committee members
- o Members from other agencies must be appointed by their respective directors and referred to DOL for appointment
- All members must be familiar with the practice of spoken language interpreter services and be able to provide DOL with expertise and assistance in carrying out chapter duties
- DOL must consult regularly with the committee on issues related to interpreter and translator licensure and renewal

Section 11 – New Section

- URBP governs unlicensed practice, issuance/denial of licenses, and licensee discipline under this chapter

II. B - Cash receipts Impact

Cash receipts impact of the legislation on the responding agency with the cash receipts provisions identified by section number and when appropriate, the detail of the revenue sources. Description of the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the cash receipts impact is derived. Explanation of how workload assumptions translate into estimates. Distinguished between one time and ongoing functions.

II. C - Expenditures

Agency expenditures necessary to implement this legislation (or savings resulting from this legislation), with the provisions of the legislation that result in the expenditures (or savings) identified by section number. Description of the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the expenditure impact is derived. Explanation of how workload assumptions translate into cost estimates. Distinguished between one time and ongoing functions.

Information Services:

The agency will use appropriated funds to hire contract programmers to accomplish this work or to support current staff implementing this legislation within the required timeline. Appropriated funds may also be used to hire agency temporary staff to support permanent staff assigned to this legislative effort.

Any change requires a process to ensure changes are correctly applied to the system. This involves Project Managers that manage the team that completes the update, business analyst that documents and reviews the system changes, architect services that analyzes how the update could have an effect on other systems or DOL processes, developers who create the change, and testers and quality assurance teams that ensure the update is working correctly.

- Create three new license types under a new Interpreter program: Licensed Certified Interpreter, Licensed Authorized Interpreter, Licensed Translator.
- Add two new endorsement types: Medical Interpreter and Social Services Interpreter to be available to Licensed Certified Interpreter and Licensed Authorized Interpreter license types.
- Create ability for applicants to submit applications for new, reciprocity, renewal, and reinstatement applications and for staff to process applications.
- Create ability to capture and store languages for new licenses and endorsements.
- Support application, entry of exam results, and licensing of multiple languages for each license type and endorsement.
- Configure system to provide standard functions for new licenses such as expiration and renewal logic.
- Update existing standard automations and notification templates to include new license types, add new letter and email templates for profession-specific notifications.
- Complete transfer, analysis, mapping, and programming to process certification data from DSHS into DOL's professional licensing system and issue licenses to qualified individuals, includes new sandbox environment to support data migration validation.
- Add new license types to Criminal Conviction Screening.
- Configure complaints process and compliance activities for new license types.
- Changes to system to include new application and exam fees, including exam retakes.
- Add new license types to Public License Search.

Attorney General: DOL will be billed for King County rates: FY 2025: \$39,000 for 0.1 Assistant Attorney General FTE (AAG) and 0.1 Paralegal FTE (PL), which includes direct litigation costs of \$300.
 FY 2026: \$36,000 for 0.1 AAG, 0.1 PL, which includes direct litigation costs of \$300.
 FY 2027 and in each FY thereafter: \$21,000 for 0.1 AAG and 0.04 PL, which includes direct litigation costs of \$300 (ongoing)

Application programmers and Commercial Off the Shelf (COTS) product and require modifications by the vendor. The design, development and configuration services are estimated to cost \$3,169,300. (one-time)

Psychometrician Contract for Exams: \$500,000 one-time in FY26 as well as \$10,900 per biennium ongoing after exam is developed for continued administration of the exam.
 Current exams will need to be reviewed or updated by a contractor to meet industry standards. Contract will also develop written and oral exams in different languages. Contract with exam vendor to provide exams.

Periodic review and updates: \$451,000 (FY25), \$508,100 (FY26), \$10,900 (on-going)

Board Members: 14 members x 50 per meeting x 4 meetings annually \$2,800 (ongoing)

Travel: For DOL and Board Members for required travel for Board Meetings \$44,000 (ongoing)

Support Services:

Agency Administrative Overhead is included at a rate of 23.4 percent of the direct program costs. This funding received covers agency-wide functions such as vendor payments, contract administration, financial management, mail processing, equipment management, help desk support, and technical assistance to DOL employees. These indirect costs are shown under object E.

Part III: Expenditure Detail

III. A - Operating Budget Expenditures

Account	Account Title	Type	FY 2024	FY 2025	2023-25	2025-27	2027-29
06L-1	Business and Professions Account	State	0	6,140,000	6,140,000	3,866,000	3,230,000
Total \$			0	6,140,000	6,140,000	3,866,000	3,230,000

III. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose

	FY 2024	FY 2025	2023-25	2025-27	2027-29
FTE Staff Years		12.5	6.3	11.5	11.5
A-Salaries and Wages		867,000	867,000	1,556,000	1,556,000
B-Employee Benefits		323,000	323,000	588,000	588,000
C-Professional Service Contracts					
E-Goods and Other Services		4,906,000	4,906,000	1,634,000	998,000
G-Travel		44,000	44,000	88,000	88,000
J-Capital Outlays					
M-Inter Agency/Fund Transfers					
N-Grants, Benefits & Client Services					
P-Debt Service					
S-Interagency Reimbursements					
T-Intra-Agency Reimbursements					
9-					
Total \$	0	6,140,000	6,140,000	3,866,000	3,230,000

III. C - Operating FTE Detail: *List FTEs by classification and corresponding annual compensation. Totals need to agree with total FTEs in Part I and Part IIIA*

Job Classification	Salary	FY 2024	FY 2025	2023-25	2025-27	2027-29
Customer Service Specialist 2	48,864		2.5	1.3	2.5	2.5
EMS Band 3	122,400		0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Investigator 2	65,748		0.5	0.3	0.5	0.5
Investigator 4	84,192		0.3	0.2	0.3	0.3
Management Analyst 4	86,208		1.0	0.5		
Professional Licensing Representative 1	55,224		2.5	1.3	2.5	2.5
Professional Licensing Representative 2	67,380		3.0	1.5	3.0	3.0
Program Specialist 3	72,552		1.0	0.5	1.0	1.0
Program Specialist 5	86,208		1.0	0.5	1.0	1.0
WMS Band 1 LCSS	108,000		0.5	0.3	0.5	0.5
WMS Band 2 LCSS	120,000		0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Total FTEs			12.5	6.3	11.5	11.5

III. D - Expenditures By Program (optional)

NONE

Part IV: Capital Budget Impact

IV. A - Capital Budget Expenditures

NONE

IV. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose

NONE

IV. C - Capital Budget Breakout

Acquisition and construction costs not reflected elsewhere on the fiscal note and description of potential financing methods.

NONE

IV. D - Capital FTE Detail: *FTEs listed by classification and corresponding annual compensation. Totals agree with total FTEs in Part IVB.*

NONE

Part V: New Rule Making Required

Provisions of the bill that require the agency to adopt new administrative rules or repeal/revise existing rules.

Individual State Agency Fiscal Note

Agency 240 – Department of Licensing

Bill Number: SB 5995

Bill Title: Spoken Language Interpreters and Translators

Part 1: Estimates

No Fiscal Impact

Estimated Cash Receipts:

Per RCW 43.24.086, the cost of administering professional and business licensing programs must be funded by those industry’s licensing fees. Cash receipt impacts are driven by fee increases to satisfy this requirement.

Revenue	Fund	FY 24	FY 25	23-25 Total	25-27 Total	27-29 Total
Account Totals		-	6,140,000	6,140,000	3,866,000	3,230,000

Estimated Expenditures:

Operating Expenditures	Fund	FY 24	FY 25	23-25 Total	25-27 Total	27-29 Total
Business and Professions	06L	-	6,140,000	6,140,000	3,866,000	3,230,000
Account Totals		-	6,140,000	6,140,000	3,866,000	3,230,000

The revenue and expenditure estimates on this page represent the most likely fiscal impact. Factors impacting the precision of these estimates and alternate ranges (if appropriate), are explained in Part II.

Check applicable boxes and follow corresponding instructions.

- If the fiscal impact is **less than \$50,000** per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete this page only (Part I).
- If fiscal impact is **greater than \$50,000** per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete entire fiscal note form Parts I-V.
- Capital budget impact, complete Part IV.
- Requires new rule making, complete Part V.

Legislative Contact: Madeline Ralstin	Phone: (360) 786-7356	Date:
Agency Preparation: Gina Rogers	Phone: (360) 634-5036	Date: 1/11/2024
Agency Approval: Collin Ashley	Phone: (360) 634-5384	Date:

Request #	1
Bill #	5995

Part 2 – Explanation

This bill creates a new licensed profession for interpreters and translators.

2.A – Brief Description Of What The Measure Does That Has Fiscal Impact

Section 2- New Section

- Provides new definitions:
 - “Advisory committee” means the committee on interpreting created in Section 10
 - “Interpreter” means an individual who interprets spoken languages and is licensed by Department of Licensing (DOL)
 - “Medical interpreter” means this person has received a medical endorsement
 - “Social services interpreter” means this person has received a social services endorsement
 - “Licensed certified interpreter” means this person has passed an exam of the individual’s oral transfer skills in at least 2 of the following interpretation modes:
 - Simultaneous, consecutive, or sight
 - “Licensed authorized interpreter” means this person has passed an exam of the individual’s oral transfer skills that were tested in the sight and consecutive modes through back translation
 - “Licensed translator” means an individual who translates spoken languages on written documents and is licensed by DOL

Section 3 – New Section

- Requires DOL to:
 - Adopt rules to implement the chapter
 - Establish exams and fees for licensing/renewals for licensed spoken language interpreters and translators
 - Develop and administer exams for licensure (subject to Section 4)
 - Establish forms and procedures to administer the chapter
 - Issue licenses to applicants who meet the requirements beginning January 1, 2025
 - Compile, maintain, and distribute a list of interpreters and translators licensed by DOL
 - Provide staffing and administrative support to the advisory committee in Section 10
 - Determine which states have equivalent requirements and issue licenses to those applicants without examination
 - Adopt rules for license renewal including continuing education requirements by July 1, 2025
 - Establish appeal procedures for exam failure by rule
 - Establish procedure for license revocation and decision appeal by rule

Section 4 – New Section

- Requires DOL to initially adopt the tests created by the language and testing certification program at Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) under RCW 74.04.025

- Exams can only be updated after consulting with the advisory committee created in Section 10
- DOL must administer exams for licensed certified interpreters and licensed translators in at least:
 - Cantonese Chinese, Mandarin Chinese, Korean, Russian, Spanish, and Vietnamese
- For languages which DOL does not offer certification licenses, DOL must administer exams for licensed authorized interpreters
- At minimum, DOL's licensure for certified/authorized interpreters must provide for a medical or social services endorsement

Section 5 – New Section

- The chapter doesn't restrict provision of spoken language interpretation and translation services by individuals licensed under RCW 2.43, RCW 28A.183, or RCW 28A.410.271

Section 6 – New Section

- Beginning January 1, 2026 unlicensed individuals may not use the following titles:
 - Licensed interpreter
 - Unless they are currently authorized under chapter 2.43 or 28A.183 RCW or working as a bilingual employee under RCW 74.04.025
 - Licensed translator

Section 7 – New Section

- Individuals with an active certification from the certification commission for healthcare interpreters or by the national board of certification for medical interpreters are eligible for licensure under this chapter without exam
- Individuals with a current interpreter or translator credential issued by DSHS prior to January 1, 2025 are eligible for license renewal under this chapter before the expiration date of their current credential
 - Individuals who received a DSHS credential based on submittal of a passing score on a written exam administered by the certification commission for healthcare interpreters or the national board of certification for medical interpreters are not eligible for licensure renewal without passing DOL's exam
 - Individuals with an active DSHS certification in Cambodian or Laotian are eligible for renewal as a licensed certified interpreter before the expiration of their credential regardless of whether DOL is offering certification in Cambodian or Laotian
- By July 1, 2024 DSHS must send all materials related to currently certified/authorized interpreters and translators to DOL

Section 8 – New Section

- DOL must establish the requirements and fees for license renewal by rule

- Requirements for renewal must include:
 - Completion of continuing education, including education on ethics
 - License renewal after 4 years
 - Failure to renew invalidates the license and all privileges
- DOL must work with community colleges and other private/public educational institutions and organizations to encourage training and continuing education activities are available in eastern and western WA locations

Section 9 – New Section

- DOL may collaborate and data share with DSHS, AOC, the professional educator standards board, and OSPI as necessary to carry out licensure requirements
- By July 1, 2024 DSHS must send all data, materials, and technology from their language testing and certification program to DOL
 - Including exam materials prior to March 1, 2020
 - Materials for bilingual employee exams in compliance with RCW 74.04.025 don't need to be sent
- DOL must post an online resource page that includes information links maintained by relevant state agencies on the number of requests for spoken language interpreter services that went unfilled for DSHS, DCYF, HCA, LNI and the procurement process in RCW 39.26.300

Section 10 – New Section

- Establishes a licensed interpreter and translator advisory committee within DOL on January 1, 2026, consisting of 14 members
 - 3 members must provide spoken language interpretation or translation services in WA who:
 - Were certified/registered by DSHS prior to January 1, 2025
 - Are licensed by DOL beginning January 1, 2025
 - 1 member from a community organization that provides direct services to limited English speaking consumers
 - 2 members who are a medical provider or represent organizations who utilize state-paid interpreter services to provide health care services to injured workers or Medicaid enrollees
 - 3 members representing an exclusive collective bargaining representative of spoken language interpreters
 - They may represent the same union
 - 1 member each from the Office of Equity, DSHS, HCA, LNI, and DES
- DOL must appoint all committee members
 - Members from other agencies must be appointed by their respective directors and referred to DOL for appointment
- All members must be familiar with the practice of spoken language interpreter services and be able to provide DOL with expertise and assistance in carrying out chapter duties
- DOL must consult regularly with the committee on issues related to interpreter and translator licensure and renewal

Section 11 – New Section

- URBP governs unlicensed practice, issuance/denial of licenses, and licensee discipline under this chapter

Section 12 – Amends RCW 43.24.150

- (1)(s) includes the new chapter created for interpreters and translators

Section 15 – New Section

- Sections 1-11 create a new chapter in Title 18 RCW

2.B - Cash receipts Impact

The bill creates a new licensed profession and several new license types for interpreters and translators.

Revenue	Fund	FY 24	FY 25	23-25 Total	25-27 Total	27-29 Total
	Account Totals	-	6,140,000	6,140,000	3,866,000	3,230,000

2.C – Expenditures

Object of Expenditure	FY 24	FY 25	23-25 Total	25-27 Total	27-29 Total
FTE Staff Years	0.0	12.5	6.6	11.5	11.5
Salaries and Wages	-	867,000	867,000	1,556,000	1,556,000
Employee Benefits	-	323,000	323,000	588,000	588,000
Goods and Services	-	4,906,000	4,906,000	1,634,000	998,000
Travel	-	44,000	44,000	88,000	88,000
Total By Object Type	-	6,140,000	6,140,000	3,866,000	3,230,000

Information Services:

The agency will use appropriated funds to hire contract programmers to accomplish this work or to support current staff implementing this legislation within the required timeline. Appropriated funds may also be used to hire agency temporary staff to support permanent staff assigned to this legislative effort.

Any change requires a process to ensure changes are correctly applied to the system. This involves Project Managers that manage the team that completes the update, business analyst that documents and reviews the system changes, architect services that analyzes how the update could have an effect on other systems or DOL processes, developers who create the change, and testers and quality assurance teams that ensure the update is working correctly.

What IS Will Implement:

- Create three new license types under a new Interpreter program: Licensed Certified Interpreter, Licensed Authorized Interpreter, Licensed Translator.
- Add two new endorsement types: Medical Interpreter and Social Services Interpreter to be available to Licensed Certified Interpreter and Licensed Authorized Interpreter license types.

- Create ability for applicants to submit applications for new, reciprocity, renewal, and reinstatement applications and for staff to process applications.
- Create ability to capture and store languages for new licenses and endorsements.
- Support application, entry of exam results, and licensing of multiple languages for each license type and endorsement.
- Configure system to provide standard functions for new licenses such as expiration and renewal logic.
- Update existing standard automations and notification templates to include new license types, add new letter and email templates for profession-specific notifications.
- Complete transfer, analysis, mapping, and programming to process certification data from DSHS into DOL's professional licensing system and issue licenses to qualified individuals, includes new sandbox environment to support data migration validation.
- Add new license types to Criminal Conviction Screening.
- Configure complaints process and compliance activities for new license types.
- Changes to system to include new application and exam fees, including exam retakes.
- Add new license types to Public License Search.

Cost Category	Description	Rate	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	Total Cost
TESTER	Test to verify individual components meet requirements; ensure that other business transactions have not been impacted.	\$ 27,144	-	675,900	-	-	-	-	675,900
BUSINESS ANALYST	Determine business requirements; translate requirements into what changes are needed to various systems including account codes, inventory codes, testing considerations, etc.	\$ 19,836	-	132,900	-	-	-	-	132,900
PROJECT MANAGER	Manage schedule and contracts	\$ 34,452	-	172,300	-	-	-	-	172,300
QUALITY ASSURANCE	Plan and carry out activities to assure project deliverables; e.g. preventative defect activities, align quality measures and business objectives.	\$ 44,892	-	803,600	-	-	-	-	803,600
SECURITY AND ARCHITECT SERVICES	Create the conceptual model that defines the structure, behavior and framework of a computerized system including a breakdown of the system into components, the component interactions and interfaces (including with the environment, especially the user), and the technologies and resources to be used in the design.	\$ 19,836	-	67,400	-	-	-	-	67,400
DEVELOPERS	Modify programming and coding to all major systems	\$ 22,968	-	43,600	-	-	-	-	43,600
Trainer	Trains business partners and employees in new system processes and capabilities.	\$ 27,144	-	181,900	-	-	-	-	181,900
Organizational Change Management	Prepares stakeholders for the change and develops strategies to ensure the changes are fully adopted.	\$ 44,892	-	803,600	-	-	-	-	803,600
Project Contingency	Office of the Chief Information Officer designated rate of 10%	\$ 29,824	-	288,100	-	-	-	-	288,100
Totals			-	3,169,300	-	-	-	-	3,169,300

Support Services:

Agency Administrative Overhead is included at a rate of 23.4 percent of the direct program costs. This funding received covers agency-wide functions such as vendor payments, contract administration, financial management, mail processing, equipment management, help desk support, and technical assistance to DOL employees. These indirect costs are shown under object E.

Part 3 – Expenditure Detail

3.A – Operating Budget Expenditures

Operating Expenditures	Fund	FY 24	FY 25	23-25 Total	25-27 Total	27-29 Total
Business and Professions	06L	-	6,140,000	6,140,000	3,866,000	3,230,000
Account Totals		-	6,140,000	6,140,000	3,866,000	3,230,000

3.B – Expenditures by Object or Purpose

Object E - Description	FY 24	FY 25	23-25 Total	25-27 Total	27-29 Total
EA - General Office Supplies	-	2,840	2,840	5,220	5,220
EB - Postage	-	5,330	5,330	10,660	10,660
EB - Phone/Install/Usage	-	10,320	10,320	18,980	18,980
EC - Utilities	-	5,380	5,380	9,900	9,900
ED - Facility/Lease Costs	-	68,020	68,020	125,160	125,160
EE - Repairs, Alterations & Maintenance	-	15,170	15,170	27,920	27,920
EG - Training	-	2,000	2,000	3,680	3,680
EH - Manage Print Services	-	10,360	10,360	19,060	19,060
EK - Facilities and Services	-	15,760	15,760	29,000	29,000
EM - Attorney Gen Svcs/Costs	-	39,000	39,000	57,000	42,000
ER - Psychometrician and board member contract	-	953,800	953,800	510,900	10,900
ER - Application Programmers	-	3,169,300	3,169,300	-	-
EY - Software Maintenance	-	42,960	42,960	79,060	79,060
EZ - Other Goods & Svcs	-	565,410	565,410	737,440	616,980
Total Goods & Services	-	4,906,000	4,906,000	1,634,000	999,000

Details:

Attorney General: DOL will be billed for King County rates: FY 2025: \$39,000 for 0.1 Assistant Attorney General FTE (AAG) and 0.1 Paralegal FTE (PL), which includes direct litigation costs of \$300.

FY 2026: \$36,000 for 0.1 AAG, 0.1 PL, which includes direct litigation costs of \$300.

FY 2027 and in each FY thereafter: \$21,000 for 0.1 AAG and 0.04 PL, which includes direct litigation costs of \$300 (ongoing)

Application programmers and Commercial Off the Shelf (COTS) product and require modifications by the vendor. The design, development and configuration services are estimated to cost \$3,169,300. (one-time)

Psychometrician Contract for Exams: \$500,000 one-time in FY26 as well as \$10,900 per biennium ongoing after exam is developed for continued administration of the exam.

Current exams will need to be reviewed or updated by a contractor to meet industry standards. Contract will also develop written and oral exams in different languages. Contract with exam vendor to provide exams.

Periodic review and updates: \$451,000 (FY25), \$508,100 (FY26), \$10,900 (on-going)

Board Members: 14 members x 50 per meeting x 4 meetings annually \$2,800 (ongoing)

Travel: For DOL and Board Members for required travel for Board Meetings \$44,000 (ongoing)

3.C – FTE Detail

Staffing	Salary	FY 24	FY 25	23-25 Total	25-27 Total	27-29 Total
Customer Service Specialist 2	48,864	0.0	2.5	1.3	2.5	2.5
PROFESSIONAL LICENSING REPRES	67,380	0.0	3.0	1.5	3.0	3.0
Investigator 2	65,748	0.0	0.5	0.3	0.5	0.5
Investigator 4	84,192	0.0	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.3
Program Specialist 5	86,208	0.0	1.0	0.5	1.0	1.0
Program Specialist 3	72,552	0.0	1.0	0.5	1.0	1.0
Management Analyst 4	86,208	0.0	1.0	0.5	0.0	0.0
PROFESSIONAL LICENSING REPRES	55,224	0.0	2.5	1.3	2.5	2.5
WMS Band 1 LCSS	108,000	0.0	0.5	0.3	0.5	0.5
WMS Band 2 LCSS	120,000	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
EMS Band 3	122,400	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Total FTE		0.0	12.5	6.6	11.5	11.5

Licensing & Customer Support Services Section: 6.7

Quantity	Title	Job description	Ongoing or Project
2.5	Customer Service Specialist 2	Provides customer service support on phones, email, and written correspondence.	Ongoing
2.5	Professional Licensing Rep 1	Processes applications and renewals, supports exam administration.	Ongoing
1	Professional Licensing Rep 2	Supervise and oversee day to day operations of licensing, examination, and system support.	Ongoing
.5	WMS1	Provides overall program management of licensing and examination requirements.	Ongoing
.1	WMS2	Provides long term goals, strategic direction, and program support.	Ongoing
.1	EMS3	Provides long term goals, strategic direction, and program support.	Ongoing

Central Investigations and Audits Unit: 1.8

1	Professional Licensing Rep 2	Process intake complaints, evaluate for relevancy, provide consumer guidance and direction to the AGO consumer complaints division.	Ongoing
.5	Investigator 2	Conduct investigations associated with complaints filed tied to consumer complaints and/or business entities.	Ongoing
.3	Investigator 4	Supervise and provide escalated regulatory support.	Ongoing

Regulatory Compliance/UCC/Firearms Section: 3

1	Professional Licensing Rep 2	Regulatory compliance, facilitate due process, monitoring of sanctions and direction to the AGO consumer complaints division.	Ongoing
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Boards and Commissions Section:

1	Program Specialist 5	Provides specialized expertise for program and commission support and agency level recommendations.	Ongoing
1	Program Specialist 3	Support creation of 14-member commission, facilitating 4X commission meetings annually, arranging board travel, board pay and board training.	Ongoing

Rulemaking Section: 1

1	Management Analyst 4	Provides senior level professional analysis; coordinates and conducts rulemaking to implement new changes; support stakeholder outreach; and assists with process and policy development.	12 Month Project
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Part 4 – Capital Budget Impact

None.

Part 5 – New Rule Making Required

None.

Individual State Agency Fiscal Note

Bill Number: 5995	Title: Creating a professional license for spoken language interpreters and translators.	Agency: 300-Department of Social and Health Services
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Part I: Estimates

No Fiscal Impact

Estimated Cash Receipts to:

NONE

Estimated Operating Expenditures from:

NONE

Estimated Capital Budget Impact:

NONE

The cash receipts and expenditure estimates on this page represent the most likely fiscal impact. Factors impacting the precision of these estimates, and alternate ranges (if appropriate), are explained in Part II.

Check applicable boxes and follow corresponding instructions:

- If fiscal impact is greater than \$50,000 per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete entire fiscal note form Parts I-V.
- If fiscal impact is less than \$50,000 per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete this page only (Part I).
- Capital budget impact, complete Part IV.
- Requires new rule making, complete Part V.

Legislative Contact: Madeline Ralstin	Phone: 360-786-7356	Date: 12/28/2023
Agency Preparation: Teresa Elliott	Phone: 360-902-8177	Date: 01/03/2024
Agency Approval: Dan Winkley	Phone: 360-902-8236	Date: 01/03/2024
OFM Review: Jason Brown	Phone: (360) 742-7277	Date: 01/05/2024

Part II: Narrative Explanation

II. A - Brief Description Of What The Measure Does That Has Fiscal Impact

Significant provisions of the bill and any related workload or policy assumptions that have revenue or expenditure impact on the responding agency by section number.

Section 1) Creates a professional licensing program for spoken language interpreters and translators to protect consumers and help meet the needs of all Washingtonians who require interpreting and translating services.

Section 2) Defines "Department" to mean the Department of Licensing DOL.

Section 7) (3) Requires the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) transmit all materials related to interpreters and translators to DOL by July 1, 2024.

Section 9) (2) Requires DSHS transmit all data, materials, and technology from its language testing and certification program to DOL by July 1, 2024.

The fiscal impact to DSHS is minimal and can be accomplished using existing resources.

II. B - Cash receipts Impact

Cash receipts impact of the legislation on the responding agency with the cash receipts provisions identified by section number and when appropriate, the detail of the revenue sources. Description of the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the cash receipts impact is derived. Explanation of how workload assumptions translate into estimates. Distinguished between one time and ongoing functions.

II. C - Expenditures

Agency expenditures necessary to implement this legislation (or savings resulting from this legislation), with the provisions of the legislation that result in the expenditures (or savings) identified by section number. Description of the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the expenditure impact is derived. Explanation of how workload assumptions translate into cost estimates. Distinguished between one time and ongoing functions.

Part III: Expenditure Detail

III. A - Operating Budget Expenditures

NONE

III. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose

NONE

III. C - Operating FTE Detail: *FTEs listed by classification and corresponding annual compensation. Totals agree with total FTEs in Part I and Part IIIA.*

NONE

III. D - Expenditures By Program (optional)

NONE

Part IV: Capital Budget Impact

IV. A - Capital Budget Expenditures

NONE

IV. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose

NONE

IV. C - Capital Budget Breakout

Acquisition and construction costs not reflected elsewhere on the fiscal note and description of potential financing methods.

NONE

IV. D - Capital FTE Detail: *FTEs listed by classification and corresponding annual compensation. Totals agree with total FTEs in Part IVB.*

NONE

Part V: New Rule Making Required

Provisions of the bill that require the agency to adopt new administrative rules or repeal/revise existing rules.

Individual State Agency Fiscal Note

Bill Number: 5995	Title: Creating a professional license for spoken language interpreters and translators.	Agency: 307-Department of Children, Youth, and Families
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Part I: Estimates

No Fiscal Impact

Estimated Cash Receipts to:

NONE

Estimated Operating Expenditures from:

NONE

Estimated Capital Budget Impact:

NONE

The cash receipts and expenditure estimates on this page represent the most likely fiscal impact. Factors impacting the precision of these estimates, and alternate ranges (if appropriate), are explained in Part II.

Check applicable boxes and follow corresponding instructions:

- If fiscal impact is greater than \$50,000 per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete entire fiscal note form Parts I-V.
- If fiscal impact is less than \$50,000 per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete this page only (Part I).
- Capital budget impact, complete Part IV.
- Requires new rule making, complete Part V.

Legislative Contact: Madeline Ralstin	Phone: 360-786-7356	Date: 12/28/2023
Agency Preparation: Saydee Wilson	Phone: 5098221418	Date: 01/09/2024
Agency Approval: Sarah Emmans	Phone: 360-628-1524	Date: 01/09/2024
OFM Review: Carly Kujath	Phone: (360) 790-7909	Date: 01/10/2024

Part II: Narrative Explanation

II. A - Brief Description Of What The Measure Does That Has Fiscal Impact

Significant provisions of the bill and any related workload or policy assumptions that have revenue or expenditure impact on the responding agency by section number.

This bill creates a professional license process for interpreters and translators.

No fiscal impact to the Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF).

II. B - Cash receipts Impact

Cash receipts impact of the legislation on the responding agency with the cash receipts provisions identified by section number and when appropriate, the detail of the revenue sources. Description of the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the cash receipts impact is derived. Explanation of how workload assumptions translate into estimates. Distinguished between one time and ongoing functions.

None.

II. C - Expenditures

Agency expenditures necessary to implement this legislation (or savings resulting from this legislation), with the provisions of the legislation that result in the expenditures (or savings) identified by section number. Description of the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the expenditure impact is derived. Explanation of how workload assumptions translate into cost estimates. Distinguished between one time and ongoing functions.

None.

Part III: Expenditure Detail

III. A - Operating Budget Expenditures

NONE

III. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose

NONE

III. C - Operating FTE Detail: *FTEs listed by classification and corresponding annual compensation. Totals agree with total FTEs in Part I and Part IIIA.*

NONE

III. D - Expenditures By Program (optional)

NONE

Part IV: Capital Budget Impact

IV. A - Capital Budget Expenditures

NONE

IV. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose

NONE

IV. C - Capital Budget Breakout

Acquisition and construction costs not reflected elsewhere on the fiscal note and description of potential financing methods.

NONE

IV. D - Capital FTE Detail: *FTEs listed by classification and corresponding annual compensation. Totals agree with total FTEs in Part IVB.*

NONE

None.

Part V: New Rule Making Required

Provisions of the bill that require the agency to adopt new administrative rules or repeal/revise existing rules.

Individual State Agency Fiscal Note

Bill Number: 5995	Title: Creating a professional license for spoken language interpreters and translators.	Agency: 350-Superintendent of Public Instruction
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Part I: Estimates

No Fiscal Impact

Estimated Cash Receipts to:

NONE

Estimated Operating Expenditures from:

NONE

Estimated Capital Budget Impact:

NONE

The cash receipts and expenditure estimates on this page represent the most likely fiscal impact. Factors impacting the precision of these estimates, and alternate ranges (if appropriate), are explained in Part II.

Check applicable boxes and follow corresponding instructions:

- If fiscal impact is greater than \$50,000 per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete entire fiscal note form Parts I-V.
- If fiscal impact is less than \$50,000 per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete this page only (Part I).
- Capital budget impact, complete Part IV.
- Requires new rule making, complete Part V.

Legislative Contact: Madeline Ralstin	Phone: 360-786-7356	Date: 12/28/2023
Agency Preparation: Tisha Kuhn	Phone: 360 725-6424	Date: 01/12/2024
Agency Approval: Amy Kollar	Phone: 360 725-6420	Date: 01/12/2024
OFM Review: Brian Fechter	Phone: (360) 688-4225	Date: 01/12/2024

Part II: Narrative Explanation

II. A - Brief Description Of What The Measure Does That Has Fiscal Impact

Significant provisions of the bill and any related workload or policy assumptions that have revenue or expenditure impact on the responding agency by section number.

Section 1 (New Section)

Findings and intent section. The legislature intends to create a professional licensing program for spoken language interpreters and translators.

Section 2 (New Section)

Provides definitions for advisory committee, department, director, interpreter, medical interpreter, social services interpreter, licensed certified interpreter, licensed authorized interpreter, and licensed translator.

Section 3 (New Section)

Details the requirements for the Department of Licensing (DOL) to include:

1. Adopting rules necessary to implement this chapter.
2. Establishing reasonable examination, licensing, and renewal fees for spoken language interpreters and translators licensed under this section.
3. Developing and administering examinations.
4. Establishing forms and procedures.
5. Begin issuing licenses to applicants who have met the department's requirements for obtaining a license or begin denying licenses to applicants who do not meet the requirements by January 1, 2025.
6. Compiling and maintaining a current list of interpreters and translators licensed by the department.
7. Providing staffing and administrative support to the advisory committee created in section 10.
8. Determining which states, if any, have credentialing requirements equivalent to those of Washington.
9. Adopting rules for licensure renewal by July 1, 2025.
10. Establishing rules that outline the procedures for appeals of an examination failure.
11. Establishing rules that outline the procedures for revoking licenses.
12. Periodically evaluating language access within the state to ensure Washingtonians are able to participate in the program, activities and services offered.

Section 4 (New Section)

Section 4(1): Requires DOL to adopt the tests created by the certification program at the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) under RCW 74.04.025 as the examinations.

Section 4(2): Requires DOL to administer the examinations of licensure as a licensed certified interpreter in at least Cantonese Chinese, Mandarin Chinese, Korean, Russian, Spanish, and Vietnamese.

Section 4(3): Requires DOL to administer examinations to applicants for licensure as a licensed authorized interpreter if the DOL does not offer certification in the needed language.

Section 4(4): At a minimum, requires DOL's licensure to provide for a medical or social services endorsement.

Section 4(5): Requires DOL to administer the examinations of licensure as a licensed translator in at least Cantonese Chinese, Mandarin Chinese, Korean, Russian, Spanish, and Vietnamese.

Section 5 (New Section)

Informs that nothing in this chapter will be construed to prohibit or restrict the provision of spoken language interpretation and translation services by individuals who are providing services within their authorized scope of practice and who are licensed, certified, qualified, authorized, or registered.

Section 6 (New Section)

Informes that beginning January 1, 2026, it is unlawful for any individual to

1. Act or hold themselves out as a licensed interpreter or use the title of “licensed interpreter” unless the individual holds a valid license under this chapter, unless the individual is currently authorized under chapter 2.43 or 28A183 RCW or working as a bilingual employee under RCW 74.04.025
2. Act or hold themselves out as a licensed translator or use the title of “licensed translator” unless the individual holds a valid license under this chapter.

Section 7 (New Section)

Section 7(1): Informes those individuals exempt from taking the examination.

Section 7(2)(a): Informes those individuals exempt from taking the examination if they received their active interpreter or translator credential issued by DSHS prior to January 1, 2025.

Section 7(2)(b): Requires individuals who received a credential issued by DSHS based solely on a passing score on a written exam administered by the certification commission for healthcare interpreters or the national board of certification for medical interpreters are not eligible for renewal under this chapter without passing DOL’s examination.

Section 7(2)(c): Informes that individuals who have an active certification from DSHS in Cambodian or Laotian are eligible for renewal regardless of whether DOL is offering certification in Cambodian or Laotian.

Section 7(3): Requires DSHS to transmit all materials related to interpreters and translators certified and authorized by DSHS to DOL by July 1, 2024.

Section 8 (New Section)

Outlines the requirements that the director of DOL must establish by rules.

Section 9 (New Section)

Section 9(1): Informes that DOL, DSHS, the Administrative Office of the Courts, the Professional Educator Standards Board (PESB), and the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) may collaborate and share data as necessary to carry out the licensure requirements of this chapter.

Section 9(2): Requires DSHS to transmit all data, materials, and technology from its language testing and certification program to DOL, including examination materials prior to March 1, 2020 by July 1, 2024. This does not include materials for bilingual employee examinations in compliance with RCW 74.04.025.

Section 9(3): Requires DOL to post online a resource page with links to information on the number of requests for spoken language interpreter services that went unfilled by DSHS, the Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF), the Health Care Authority (HCA), the Department of Labor and Industries, and the procurement process in RCW 39.26.300.

Section 10 (New Section)

Section 10(1): Requires DOL to create a licensed interpreter and translator advisory committee by January 1, 2026. Informes of the required members of the committee must consist of.

Section 10(2): Requires DOL to appoint all members of the advisory committee.

Section 10(3): Requires DOL to consult regularly with the advisory committee on issues related to interpreter and translator licensure and renewal.

Section 11 (New Section)

Informes that the uniform regulation of business and professions act, chapter 18.235 RCW, governs unlicensed practice, the

issuance and denial of licenses, and the discipline of licenses under this chapter.

Section 12 (Amended)

Section 12(1)(s): Language added to incorporate Chapter 18.---RCW (the new chapter created in section 15 of this act, interpreters and translators to the business and professions account created in the state treasury.

Section 13 (Amended)

Section 13(9): Removes the word “direct” and informs that testing and certification authority may not be awarded to a private entity with a financial interest in the provision of interpreter services.

Section 14 (Amended)

Section 14(4): Removes previous requirements of DOL that requires the department to certify, authorize, and qualify language access providers as needed to maintain an adequate pool of providers. Previous section 14(5) is now section 14(4).

Section 14(4)(a) – (c): Removes requirement that DOL will offer spoken language interpreter testing in the following manner:

(a) To individuals speaking languages for which ten percent or more of the requests for interpreter services in the prior year for DOL employees and the Health Care Authority on behalf of English-speaking applicants and recipients of public assistance that went unfilled through the procurement process in RCW 39.26.300.

(b) To spoken language interpreters who were decertified or deauthorized due to noncompliance with any continuing education requirements.

(c) To current department certified or authorized spoken language interpreters seeking to gain additional certification or authorization.

Section 14(5): Previously section 14(6).

Section 14(6): Previously section 14(7).

Section 14(7): Previously section 14(9).

Section 14(8): Removes previous language indicating that nothing in this section prohibits DOL from developing and administering a program to meet the requirements and standards established under chapter 94, Laws of 2023.

Section 14(8): Previously section 10.

Section 15 (New Section)

Indicates that sections 1 through 11 of this act constitute a new chapter in Title 18 RCW.

Section 16 (New Section)

Indicates that section 13 of this act expires December 31, 2024.

Section 17 (New Section)

Indicates that section 14 of this act takes effect January 1, 2025.

II. B - Cash receipts Impact

Cash receipts impact of the legislation on the responding agency with the cash receipts provisions identified by section number and when appropriate, the detail of the revenue sources. Description of the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the cash receipts impact is derived. Explanation of how workload assumptions translate into estimates. Distinguished between one time and ongoing functions.

No cash receipts impact anticipated.

II. C - Expenditures

Agency expenditures necessary to implement this legislation (or savings resulting from this legislation), with the provisions of the legislation that result in the expenditures (or savings) identified by section number. Description of the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the expenditure impact is derived. Explanation of how workload assumptions translate into cost estimates. Distinguished between one time and ongoing functions.

OSPI Expenditure Impact:

Section 9(1) informs that DOL, DSHS, the Administrative Office of the Courts, the Professional Educator Standards Board (PESB), and the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) may collaborate and share data as necessary to carry out the licensure requirements of this chapter.

OSPI does not anticipate a fiscal impact to implement this section of the bill as they are not required to perform any additional staff duties or data reporting requirements.

PESB Expenditure Impact:

To implement Section 9(1), PESB assumes the effort involved will not be material. PESB provides data and information to partner agencies as a part of the agency's existing services and does not anticipate an additional cost associated with this section.

Part III: Expenditure Detail

III. A - Operating Budget Expenditures

NONE

III. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose

NONE

III. C - Operating FTE Detail: *FTEs listed by classification and corresponding annual compensation. Totals agree with total FTEs in Part I and Part IIIA.*

NONE

III. D - Expenditures By Program (optional)

NONE

Part IV: Capital Budget Impact

IV. A - Capital Budget Expenditures

NONE

IV. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose

NONE

IV. C - Capital Budget Breakout

Acquisition and construction costs not reflected elsewhere on the fiscal note and description of potential financing methods.

NONE

IV. D - Capital FTE Detail: *FTEs listed by classification and corresponding annual compensation. Totals agree with total FTEs in Part IVB.*

NONE

No capital budget impact anticipated.

Part V: New Rule Making Required

Provisions of the bill that require the agency to adopt new administrative rules or repeal/revise existing rules.



Multiple Agency Ten-Year Analysis Summary

Bill Number 5995	Title Creating a professional license for spoken language interpreters and translators.
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This ten-year analysis is limited to the estimated cash receipts associated with the proposed tax or fee increases.

Estimated Cash Receipts

	Fiscal Year 2024	Fiscal Year 2025	Fiscal Year 2026	Fiscal Year 2027	Fiscal Year 2028	Fiscal Year 2029	Fiscal Year 2030	Fiscal Year 2031	Fiscal Year 2032	Fiscal Year 2033	2024-33 TOTAL
Office of Attorney General	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Washington State Health Care Authority Indeterminate Impact	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Office of Administrative Hearings	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Department of Enterprise Services	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Department of Labor and Industries	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Department of Licensing	0	6,140,000	2,251,000	1,615,000	1,615,000	1,615,000	1,615,000	1,615,000	1,615,000	1,615,000	19,696,000
Department of Social and Health Services	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Department of Children, Youth, and Families	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Superintendent of Public Instruction	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	6,140,000	2,251,000	1,615,000	1,615,000	1,615,000	1,615,000	1,615,000	1,615,000	1,615,000	19,696,000



Ten-Year Analysis

Bill Number 5995	Title Creating a professional license for spoken language interpreters and translators.	Agency 100 Office of Attorney General
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This ten-year analysis is limited to agency estimated cash receipts associated with the proposed tax or fee increases. The Office of Financial Management ten-year projection can be found at <http://www.ofm.wa.gov/tax/default.asp>.

Estimates

No Cash Receipts **Partially Indeterminate Cash Receipts** **Indeterminate Cash Receipts**

Name of Tax or Fee	Acct Code											

Agency Preparation: Dan Jensen	Phone: 360-664-9429	Date: 1/9/2024 7:48:42 pm
Agency Approval: Edd Giger	Phone: 360-586-2104	Date: 1/9/2024 7:48:42 pm
OFM Review: Kyle Siefering	Phone: (360) 995-3825	Date: 1/14/2024 12:02:39 pm



Ten-Year Analysis

Bill Number 5995	Title Creating a professional license for spoken language interpreters and translators.	Agency 107 Washington State Health Care Authority
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This ten-year analysis is limited to agency estimated cash receipts associated with the proposed tax or fee increases. The Office of Financial Management ten-year projection can be found at <http://www.ofm.wa.gov/tax/default.asp>.

Estimates

No Cash Receipts
 Partially Indeterminate Cash Receipts
 Indeterminate Cash Receipts

Estimated Cash Receipts

Name of Tax or Fee	Acct Code											
Total												

Biennial Totals

Narrative Explanation (Required for Indeterminate Cash Receipts)

See attached.

Agency Preparation: Lena Johnson	Phone: 360-725-5295	Date: 1/12/2024 8:28:18 am
Agency Approval: Carl Yanagida	Phone: 360-725-5755	Date: 1/12/2024 8:28:18 am
OFM Review: Kyle Siefering	Phone: (360) 995-3825	Date: 1/14/2024 12:02:39 pm



Ten-Year Analysis

Bill Number 5995	Title Creating a professional license for spoken language interpreters and translators.	Agency 110 Office of Administrative Hearings
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This ten-year analysis is limited to agency estimated cash receipts associated with the proposed tax or fee increases. The Office of Financial Management ten-year projection can be found at <http://www.ofm.wa.gov/tax/default.asp>.

Estimates

No Cash Receipts

 Partially Indeterminate Cash Receipts

 Indeterminate Cash Receipts

Estimated Cash Receipts

Name of Tax or Fee	Acct Code											
Total												

Biennial Totals

Agency Preparation: Pete Boeckel	Phone: 360-407-2730	Date: 1/3/2024 11:36:08 am
Agency Approval: Rob Cotton	Phone: 360-407-2708	Date: 1/3/2024 11:36:08 am
OFM Review: Kyle Siefering	Phone: (360) 995-3825	Date: 1/14/2024 12:02:39 pm



Ten-Year Analysis

Bill Number 5995	Title Creating a professional license for spoken language interpreters and translators.	Agency 179 Department of Enterprise Services
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This ten-year analysis is limited to agency estimated cash receipts associated with the proposed tax or fee increases. The Office of Financial Management ten-year projection can be found at <http://www.ofm.wa.gov/tax/default.asp>.

Estimates

No Cash Receipts

 Partially Indeterminate Cash Receipts

 Indeterminate Cash Receipts

Name of Tax or Fee	Acct Code											

Agency Preparation: Julie McVey	Phone: (360) 407-9334	Date: 1/8/2024 1:53:12 pm
Agency Approval: Jessica Goodwin	Phone: (360) 819-3719	Date: 1/8/2024 1:53:12 pm
OFM Review: Kyle Siefering	Phone: (360) 995-3825	Date: 1/14/2024 12:02:39 pm



Ten-Year Analysis

Bill Number 5995	Title Creating a professional license for spoken language interpreters and translators.	Agency 235 Department of Labor and Industries
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This ten-year analysis is limited to agency estimated cash receipts associated with the proposed tax or fee increases. The Office of Financial Management ten-year projection can be found at <http://www.ofm.wa.gov/tax/default.asp>.

Estimates

No Cash Receipts

 Partially Indeterminate Cash Receipts

 Indeterminate Cash Receipts

Name of Tax or Fee	Acct Code											

Agency Preparation: Donald Jenson Jr	Phone: 360-902-6981	Date: 1/8/2024 9:52:17 am
Agency Approval: Trent Howard	Phone: 360-902-6698	Date: 1/8/2024 9:52:17 am
OFM Review: Kyle Siefering	Phone: (360) 995-3825	Date: 1/14/2024 12:02:39 pm



Ten-Year Analysis

Bill Number 5995	Title Creating a professional license for spoken language interpreters and translators.	Agency 240 Department of Licensing
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This ten-year analysis is limited to agency estimated cash receipts associated with the proposed tax or fee increases. The Office of Financial Management ten-year projection can be found at <http://www.ofm.wa.gov/tax/default.asp>.

Estimates

No Cash Receipts

 Partially Indeterminate Cash Receipts

 Indeterminate Cash Receipts

Estimated Cash Receipts

Name of Tax or Fee	Acct Code	Fiscal Year 2024	Fiscal Year 2025	Fiscal Year 2026	Fiscal Year 2027	Fiscal Year 2028	Fiscal Year 2029	Fiscal Year 2030	Fiscal Year 2031	Fiscal Year 2032	Fiscal Year 2033	2024-33 TOTAL
Business and Professions	06L		6,140,000	2,251,000	1,615,000	1,615,000	1,615,000	1,615,000	1,615,000	1,615,000	1,615,000	19,696,000
Total			6,140,000	2,251,000	1,615,000	1,615,000	1,615,000	1,615,000	1,615,000	1,615,000	1,615,000	19,696,000
Biennial Totals			6,140,000	3,866,000	3,230,000	3,230,000	3,230,000	3,230,000	3,230,000	3,230,000	3,230,000	19,696,000

Agency Preparation: Gina Rogers	Phone: 360-634-5036	Date: 1/14/2024 10:42:06 am
Agency Approval: Collin Ashley	Phone: (564) 669-9190	Date: 1/14/2024 10:42:06 am
OFM Review: Kyle Siefering	Phone: (360) 995-3825	Date: 1/14/2024 12:02:39 pm



Ten-Year Analysis

Bill Number 5995	Title Creating a professional license for spoken language interpreters and translators.	Agency 300 Department of Social and Health Services
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This ten-year analysis is limited to agency estimated cash receipts associated with the proposed tax or fee increases. The Office of Financial Management ten-year projection can be found at <http://www.ofm.wa.gov/tax/default.asp>.

Estimates

No Cash Receipts

 Partially Indeterminate Cash Receipts

 Indeterminate Cash Receipts

Estimated Cash Receipts

Name of Tax or Fee	Acct Code											
Total												

Biennial Totals

Agency Preparation: Teresa Elliott	Phone: 360-902-8177	Date: 1/3/2024 3:27:00 pm
Agency Approval: Dan Winkley	Phone: 360-902-8236	Date: 1/3/2024 3:27:00 pm
OFM Review: Kyle Siefering	Phone: (360) 995-3825	Date: 1/14/2024 12:02:39 pm



Ten-Year Analysis

Bill Number 5995	Title Creating a professional license for spoken language interpreters and translators.	Agency 307 Department of Children, Youth, and Families
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This ten-year analysis is limited to agency estimated cash receipts associated with the proposed tax or fee increases. The Office of Financial Management ten-year projection can be found at <http://www.ofm.wa.gov/tax/default.asp>.

Estimates

No Cash Receipts **Partially Indeterminate Cash Receipts** **Indeterminate Cash Receipts**

Name of Tax or Fee	Acct Code											

Agency Preparation: Saydee Wilson	Phone: 5098221418	Date: 1/9/2024 1:27:57 pm
Agency Approval: Sarah Emmans	Phone: 360-628-1524	Date: 1/9/2024 1:27:57 pm
OFM Review: Kyle Siefering	Phone: (360) 995-3825	Date: 1/14/2024 12:02:39 pm



Ten-Year Analysis

Bill Number 5995	Title Creating a professional license for spoken language interpreters and translators.	Agency 350 Superintendent of Public Instruction
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This ten-year analysis is limited to agency estimated cash receipts associated with the proposed tax or fee increases. The Office of Financial Management ten-year projection can be found at <http://www.ofm.wa.gov/tax/default.asp>.

Estimates

No Cash Receipts **Partially Indeterminate Cash Receipts** **Indeterminate Cash Receipts**

Name of Tax or Fee	Acct Code											

Agency Preparation: Tisha Kuhn	Phone: 360 725-6424	Date: 1/12/2024 9:42:32 am
Agency Approval: Amy Kollar	Phone: 360 725-6420	Date: 1/12/2024 9:42:32 am
OFM Review: Kyle Siefering	Phone: (360) 995-3825	Date: 1/14/2024 12:02:39 pm