

act. Upon receipt of the record of a parole or probation violation hearing held in another state pursuant to a statute substantially similar to this act, such record shall have the same standing and effect as though the proceeding of which it is a record was had before the appropriate officer or officers of this state. Should any recommendations be contained in or accompany the record, such recommendations shall be considered by the appropriate officer or officers of this state in making disposition of the matter.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 6. This act shall take effect on July 1, 1973.

Passed the Senate February 15, 1973.

Passed the House February 23, 1973.

Approved by the Governor March 6, 1973.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State March 7, 1973.

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CHAPTER 22

[Engrossed Senate Bill No. 2282]

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS--INTERPRETERS--IMPAIRED PERSONS

AN ACT Relating to appointed interpreters in legal proceedings; and adding a new chapter to Title 2 RCW.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

NEW SECTION. Section 1. It is hereby declared to be the policy of this state to secure the constitutional rights of deaf persons and of other persons who, because of impairment of hearing or speech are unable to readily understand or communicate spoken language, and who consequently cannot be fully protected in legal proceedings unless qualified interpreters are available to assist them.

It is the intent of the legislature in the passage of this chapter to provide for the appointment of such interpreters.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. As used in this chapter (1) an "impaired person" is any person involved in a legal proceeding who is deaf, deaf mute, or who, because of other hearing or speech defects, cannot readily understand or communicate spoken language and who, when involved as a party to a legal proceeding, is unable by reason of such defects to obtain due process of law; (2) a "qualified interpreter" is one who is able readily to translate spoken English to and for impaired persons and to translate statements of impaired persons into spoken English; (3) "legal proceeding" is a proceeding in any court in this state, at grand jury hearings or hearings before an inquiry judge, or before administrative boards, commissions, agencies, or licensing bodies of the state or any political

subdivision thereof.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. When an impaired person is a party to any legal proceeding or a witness therein the judge, magistrate, or other presiding official shall, in the absence of a written waiver by the impaired person, appoint a qualified interpreter to assist the impaired person throughout the proceedings.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 4. Interpreters appointed pursuant to this chapter shall be adequately compensated for their services and shall be reimbursed for actual expenses as hereinafter provided:

(1) In criminal proceedings, grand jury proceedings, coroner's inquests, mental health commitment proceedings, and other proceedings initiated by agencies of government, the cost of providing the interpreter shall be borne by the governmental body initiating the proceedings.

(2) In other legal proceedings the cost of providing the interpreter shall be borne by the impaired person unless the impaired person is indigent, pursuant to adopted standards of the body, and thus unable to pay for the interpreter, in which case the cost shall be borne as an administrative cost of the governmental body under the authority of which the proceeding is conducted.

(3) The cost of providing the interpreter may be a taxable cost of any proceeding in which costs are ordinarily taxed.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 5. Every qualified interpreter appointed pursuant to this chapter shall, before entering upon his duties as such, take an oath that he will make a true interpretation to the person being examined of all the proceedings in a language which said person understands, and that he will repeat the statements of said person to the court or other agency conducting the proceedings, in the English language, to the best of his skill and judgment.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 6. There is added to Title 2 RCW a new chapter as set forth in sections 1 through 5 of this 1973 act.

Passed the Senate February 13, 1973.

Passed the House February 27, 1973.

Approved by the Governor March 6, 1973.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State March 7, 1973.

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CHAPTER 23

[Engrossed Senate Bill No. 2358]

SCHOOL RETIREMENT SYSTEM--12 MONTH COMPUTATION BASIS

AN ACT Relating to the public employees' retirement system; and adding a new section to chapter 41.40 RCW.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON: