

# LTC Advisory Committee Meeting

4/23/18

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## Attendees

- Kathy Templet
- Milena Calderari-Waldron
- Larysa House
- Leroy Mould
- Cindy Roat
- Huan Nguyen
- Yvonne Simpson
- Michael Abate
- Tim Thorp
- Hungling Fu
- Don Barnes
- Jodi McBride
- Jim Schnellman
- Lori Melchiori

## Membership

- Tim Thorp will replace Megan Parke as Union Representative (Michael Abate was sitting in just for today)
- Potential new member we will invite to the next meeting – interpreter at large
- Still need physician, higher-ed teacher and representative of a refugee organization
- Send emails of recommendations or ask potential candidates to email resume and letter of interest to [dshsct@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:dshsct@dshs.wa.gov)

## SB6245 – New law limits LTC testing

The department shall certify, authorize, and qualify language access providers as needed to maintain an adequate pool of providers such that residents can access state services. Except as needed to certify, authorize, or qualify bilingual personnel per subsection (2) of this section, the department will only 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 department employees and the health care authority on behalf of limited English-speaking applicants and recipients of public assistance that went unfilled through the procurement process in section 3 of this act;

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

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

## **SB6245 Implementation**

- HCA fill rate data shows no languages meet the 90% or more fill rate threshold
- LTC has also requested fill rate data from DES
- Will review data periodically to monitor whether any languages require test limits
- LTC will also post fill rate data and new law on website to inform stake holders
- Working on a way to schedule exceptions under the new law – if/when limits go into effect

## **Budget**

- LTC is required to reduce spending to bring budget in line with 2015
- Will reduce test days in both Seattle and Olympia by 2 days per month
- Re-evaluate after several months to determine if spending is in line with budget
- No new database/FTE to assist with needs of the program at this time
- LTC will request a Decision Package to articulate the need for staff/system improvement – goes to the DSHS Secretary and then to Governor
- Concern about Western State Hospital not using on-contract interpreters – could be a savings

## **Revocation Appeals**

- Recently LTC revoked credentials of four interpreters under WAC provisions
- Two of the four have appealed the revocation
- Office of Administrative Hearings,
- Hearings on 4/16 and 5/3
- Will receive written decisions within 90 days – either side can appeal to Board of Appeals
- LTC will revise revocation materials and look at whether WAC provisions re: revocation need revision after receiving the final decisions

## **Background Check / Code of Conduct**

- LTC plans to have this information on the website by August 1, 2018
- Meeting with DSHS Background Check Unit to discuss options
- Interpreters should be able to complete these online

## **Database**

- No new database on the horizon
- Will do an RFI to find out costs/what is available
- In July, 2018 IT department will test current software to confirm it is ready for the 4/6/19 expiration/renewal event

## Wrap-up/Questions/Discussion

- Question about upcoming CE course in Spokane – is it for union members only?
- Yes – it is free to union members
- Course presented by AFSCME – only for union members – have been doing this since 2015

## Housekeeping

- Upcoming 2018 meetings:
  - July 23, Oct. 22
- Send agenda items to [jodi.mcbride@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:jodi.mcbride@dshs.wa.gov) any time