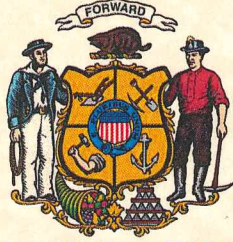


STATE of WISCONSIN



OFFICE of the GOVERNOR

Proclamation

WHEREAS; certified court interpreters in Wisconsin provide true and accurate interpretation of proceedings from the target language to the source language and the source language to the target language for seven language pairs and American Sign Language in our diverse communities; and

WHEREAS; in 1999, the Committee to Improve Interpreting and Translation in the Wisconsin Courts (hereafter "Committee") was formed to develop long-term and short-term policies and programming to effectively and efficiently serve the growing need of Limited English Proficient (LEP) individuals and families throughout the state; and

WHEREAS; in 1998, Wisconsin joined the National Center for State Courts Consortium for Language Access to promote professional standards and certification requirements for Wisconsin court interpreters with support from the Wisconsin Supreme Court and the Director of State Courts Office; and

WHEREAS; without a skilled interpreter, a party in the courts who does not speak or hear English cannot listen to the testimony, present their case, challenge the evidence, or consult with an attorney, thus being denied access to fair proceedings and representation; and

WHEREAS; in 2002, the Code of Ethics for Court Interpreters was adopted by the Wisconsin Supreme Court under SCR 63 and the first court orientation was offered; and

WHEREAS; in 2004, certification exams for court interpreters were held in Wisconsin resulting in the first group of certified interpreters; and

WHEREAS; all interpreters are bound by their Code of Ethics to serve our communities in providing necessary rendering of vital, often life-saving communication from the target to the source language for speakers for limited English proficiency and the transliteration of English in all modes for the deaf and hard of hearing; and

WHEREAS; our communities acknowledge the demands and high expectations placed on interpreters in providing true and accurate interpretations of proceedings;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the state of Wisconsin,
do hereby proclaim the week of April 27-May 4, 2019 as

WISCONSIN INTERPRETERS WEEK

throughout the state of Wisconsin and I commend this observance to all of our citizens.



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the state of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the city of Madison this 19th day of April 2019.

Tony Evers

TONY EVERS
GOVERNOR

By the Governor:

Douglas LaFollette
DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE
Secretary of State