

[Video description for DeafBlind and Blind accessibility)

A black screen with white text for title: “Maryland Sign Language Interpreter Licensure, March 2019” .

Fading into a new video of Kirsi, a white Deaf woman standing, wearing a black sweater, with a soft white background, She began to sign:

This summary will explain the main features of HB1064-- Maryland Sign Language Interpreter Licensure Bill-- and offer a summary in ASL-- we do not translate every line in the bill, but rather the main features of our proposed bill and offer insight into the rationale behind those features.

Please also note that the current version of the bill has errors that came from our language being reorganized into the standard bill framework. That process was done by someone at the Legislature without the knowledge or insight to our rationale.

Fortunately, there is a mechanism to correct this and we are working on our amendments right now.

The information presented in ASL here reflects our intended content that will be appear in forthcoming bill iterations.

(Screen faded out into a new video, a new person-- April, a Black Deaf woman with green hair bangs and wearing a blue top and sitting in front of a beige background. She signs:

This bill has two main functions: 1. to create a Licensing Board and 2. to establish the initial license types

(screen faded into a new video, a new person-- David M., a white Deaf man wearing a black jacket sitting in front of blue background. A text appears in upper left corner “Licensing Board” and remains there through this video. He signs:)

LICENSING BOARD: The Board will consist of nine members appointed by the Governor from a nominations list offered by the Governor's Appointments Office. These members will be drawn from a cross-section of stakeholder groups, which gives Maryland organizations direct influence in how licensing will be handled in practical action. The nine members will be:
One from the Maryland Advisory Council for the Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing (MACDHH). This is an oversight body that looks

after ODHH.

One from the Maryland Association of the Deaf (MDAD).

One DeafBlind individual who is a member of a DeafBlind organization in the State.

One from PCRID who holds a license.

Two Deaf interpreters who hold a license.

Two hearing interpreters who hold a license.

One representative from a Maryland-based Interpreter Preparation Program

(screen fades into a new video, a new person-- Larry, a Deaf Latino man, wearing a dark blue polo shirt sitting in front of light beige background. He signs:)

The selection of board must reflect the demographic and geographic diversity of the State as much as practicable.

Members will serve 3-year terms and will have a staggered time-frame of rotation.

Members must be residents of Maryland and proficient in American Sign Language.

There are additional details in the bill regarding terms of service, scheduling of meetings, and steps for removal from the Board. This language reflects standard approaches to organizing an oversight Board and their logistical function.

(Screen fades into a new video of April. She signs:)

The Board has a duty to issue licenses, develop portfolio criteria, evaluate certifications for inclusion in Maryland's definition of "certified", keep a record of licensees in good standing and make that information publicly available, establish fees, determine the details of supervision, hearing grievances (investigate, examine witnesses, gather evidence, etc), and develop an online portal to accept applications, file complaints, submit documentation of requirements, and register visiting interpreters.

(screen fades into a new video of Larry. He signs:)

LICENSING TYPES: This bill establishes a 3-tiered system of licensing with an option to develop specialist classes of licenses in the future. The three levels are the provisional, journeyworker, and supervisory.

(screen fades into a new video of David M. A text appears upper left corner: “Supervisory License” and remains there during this video. He signs:)

Supervisory License Requirements:

Five years post-certification experience

Have a certification from RID, NAD, or any other recognized by the Board

For educational interpreters, a proof of EIPA 4.0 or higher

Good Character and reputation

Payment of application and/or renewal fees in good standing

Documentation of hours worked with provisional licensees as set by the Board

(screen fades into a new video of Larry. A text appears upper right corner: “Journeyworker License” and remains there during this video. He signs:)

Journeyworker License Requirements:

License issued to cover period from certification until five years post-certification

Not renewable

Have a certification from RID, NAD, or any other recognized by the Board

Good character and reputation

Payment of fees in good standing

(screen transitions into a new video of Kirsi, with the same text in upper right corner: “Journeyworker License” as she signs:)

Journeyworker License holders can work with Provisional license holders between now until June 2025-- Journeyworkers are not allowed to supervise provisional licensees after June 30, 2025 as the provisional licensees must work with Supervisory

licensees after that date.

(screen fades into a new video of April. A text appears upper left corner: “Provisional License” and remains there during this video. She signs:)

Provisional License Requirements:

Valid for two years and may be renewed for one additional 2-year term

Payment of application and/or renewal fees in good standing

Good character and reputation

May not work in a legal setting, medical setting, school setting, behavioral health setting, or video remote setting

May work in all other settings while supervised

(Screen fades into black, a list of three links is shown where you can go for further information:

<https://www.mdad.tv/legislative>, <http://pcrid.org/Maryland-Licensing>,

<https://sites.google.com/a/pcrid.net/maryland-interpreter-licensure/>

The screen fades out to black. End of the video. /Video Description].