

## **S.F. No. 2043 – Establishing a spoken language health care interpreter work group (as proposed to be amended by the A-1 amendment)**

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### **Bill Overview**

**S.F. No. 2043** establishes a spoken language health care interpreter work group. The work group is charged with compiling recommendations to support and improve access to health care interpreting services statewide.

### **Section Summaries**

**Section 1 (adds Minn. Stat. § 144.0581; Definitions)** This section defines key terms, including “common languages,” “registered interpreter,” and “work group.”

**Section 2 (adds Minn. Stat. § 144.0582; Spoken Language Health Care Interpreter Work Group)** This section provides the organizational structure and duties of the work group.

**Subdivision 1. Establishment.** This subdivision requires the commissioner to contract with a neutral independent consultant to establish a process to convene a spoken language health care interpreter work group.

**Subdivision 2. Composition.** This subdivision specifies the membership requirements for the 15 members of the work group.

**Subdivision 3. Duties.** This subdivision provides the duties of the work group, including: recommending changing requirements for registered and certified interpreters to reflect changing needs, standards of training, competency, and testing; addressing barriers for interpreters to gain access to the interpreter roster; identifying gaps in interpreter services in rural areas; and recommending relevant training, certification and continuing education programs.

**Subdivision 4. Compensation.** This subdivision provides that work group members not already receiving compensation for their work group activities as part of their existing job duties shall be compensated pursuant to existing law covering advisory councils and committees.

**Section 3 (adds Minn. Stat. § 144.0584; Initial Spoken Language Health Care Interpreter Work Group Meetings)** This section provides that the work group shall convene its first meeting by October 1, 2025, and specifies certain required components of the work group's first meetings.

**Section 4 (adds Minn. Stat. § 144.0584; Reporting)** This section requires reporting on work group recommendations to improve and support access to health care interpreting services statewide by November 1, 2026.

**Section 5 (Appropriation)** This section contains a blank onetime appropriation in fiscal year 2026 to establish a request for proposals for the spoken language health care interpreter work group.



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