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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2019

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A N A C T

RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- COMMISSION ON THE DEAF AND HARD-OF-HEARING

Introduced By: Representatives Diaz, Slater, Azzinaro, Bennett, and Ackerman

Date Introduced: February 14, 2019

Referred To: House Health, Education & Welfare

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 23-1.8 of the General Laws entitled "Commission on the Deaf and  
2 Hard-of-Hearing" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

3 **23-1.8-5. Communication access services.**

4 A state employee who is approved by the commission for the deaf and hard of hearing as  
5 an interpreter or a communication access realtime translation (CART) provider may be employed  
6 by the commission or by other state agencies as long as the interpreter and CART services:

7 (1) Are provided outside of the normal working hours of the employee in order to comply  
8 with federal, state, and local laws;

9 (2) The services are not required as part of the regular duties of the employee;

10 (3) The employee does not participate in or have official responsibility for the financial  
11 management of the contracting agency;

12 (4) The employee is compensated for no more than four (4) hours in any day in which the  
13 employee is otherwise compensated by the state of Rhode Island; and

14 (5) The head of the contracting agency files with the state ethics commission a written  
15 certification that there is a critical need for the services of the employee.

1 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF

A N A C T

RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- COMMISSION ON THE DEAF AND HARD-OF-HEARING

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- 1           This act would provide conditions to lawfully permit a state employee to be employed as
- 2           an interpreter or a CART provider outside of the normal working hours.
- 3           This act would take effect upon passage.

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