

**Amie Seiberlich, MA, RID CI, CT**  
Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf Region IV Representative  
Founder, Leadership Institute for Interpreters

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In favor of HB 1090

My role:

- Member of the Colorado Interpreting and Deaf communities
- Past President of the Colorado Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf
- Current Board member for the National Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf – a 14,000 + member national, professional association for interpreters and transliterators

RID's Philosophy - excellence in the delivery of interpretation /transliteration services among people who are Deaf, hard of hearing and hearing will ensure effective, fair and equivalent communication.

Effective, fair and equivalent communication can occur only if those involved in the hiring and provision of services possess some level of knowledge about what this requires.

ADA definition of "qualified interpreter" provides no guidance to hiring entities as to what "qualified" truly means, leaving it open to a variety of interpretations and varying degrees of service

The current standard for National Certification through RID is a testing system co-created by members of the interpreting and Deaf communities. RID certification is one of the few tools available to hiring entities to help mitigate ambiguity about what "qualified" means.

Your support of HB 1090 will:

- help to uphold the integrity of the standard of national certification and the protection it provides to consumers
- help to ensure that hiring entities are more knowledgeable about and accountable for the skill level of those that are hired
- hold pre/non-certified interpreters responsible for disclosing their level of competence
- demonstrate your commitment to the Deaf and HH citizens of Colorado
  - by ensuring that those that use the titles outlined in this bill truly uphold the standards embedded in these titles,
  - by providing some level of assurance to consumers of interpreting services that their communication needs will be met,
  - and by encouraging those that are pre-certified to continue on their journey towards attaining the standard that the Deaf community has helped to determine as that which is necessary to ensure effective, fair and equivalent communication.