

HB 2240 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Carrier: Sen. Anderson

Senate Committee On Education

Action Date: 05/09/23

Action: Do pass.

Vote: 5-0-0-2

Yeas: 5 - Anderson, Dembrow, Frederick, Gelser Blouin, President Wagner

Abs: 2 - Robinson, Weber

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No revenue impact

Prepared By: Ellen O'Brien, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 4/25, 5/9

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Exempts health care providers employed or contracted by school districts, public charter schools, or education service districts from statutory requirement to work with registered health care interpreters when communicating with patients who prefer to communicate in language other than English. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Legislative intent of HB 2359 (2021)

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

House Bill 2359 (2021) made a number of changes to the state's health care interpreter system, including requiring health care providers to work with registered health care interpreters. The requirements enacted by House Bill 2359 (2021) apply to any individual licensed or certified by certain health care-related state boards, or any other person providing health care or receiving compensation for providing health care, who is reimbursed with public funds. Provisions of HB 2359 (2021) became operative on July 1, 2022 and September 1, 2022.

House Bill 2240 exempts school health care providers from providing registered health care interpretation to students who prefer to communicate in a language other than English.