S T A T E O F N E W Y O R K

5533--A

2015-2016 Regular Sessions

I N S E N A T E

May 14, 2015

Introduced by Sen. DeFRANCISCO -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Judiciary -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the judiciary law, in relation to providing real time court reporting services to individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The judiciary law is amended by adding a new section 391 to read as follows:

S 391. REAL TIME COURT REPORTING SERVICES FOR DEAF OR HARD OF HEARING INDIVIDUALS. 1. ANY PARTICIPANT IN A TRIAL, DEFENDANT, PLAINTIFF, COUNSEL, WITNESS, OR PROSPECTIVE JUROR WHO IS DEAF OR HARD OF HEARING SHALL BE ACCORDED EQUAL ACCESS TO THE PROCEEDINGS BY HAVING A STENOGRAPHER PROVIDE COMMUNITY ACCESS REAL TIME ALLOWING THE PARTICIPANT TO HAVE INSTANTANEOUS TRANSLATION OF THE COURT ROOM PROCEEDINGS.

2. FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, THE FOLLOWING TERMS SHALL HAVE THE FOLLOWING MEANINGS:

(A) "STENOGRAPHER" MEANS ANY INDIVIDUAL WHO FULFILLS THE REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION TWO HUNDRED NINETY-ONE OF THIS CHAPTER.

(B) "COMMUNITY ACCESS REAL TIME (CART)" MEANS THE INSTANTANEOUS TRANSLATION OF EVERYTHING THAT IS SPOKEN IN THE COURT ROOM VIA A REAL TIME FEED, WHICH BY MEANS OF SOFTWARE CONVERTS SHORTHAND TRANSCRIPTION INTO REAL TIME CAPTIONING IMMEDIATELY WHICH CAN BE DISPLAYED ON A COMPUTER OR MONITOR.

S 2. This act shall take effect on the thirtieth day after it shall have become a law.

EXPLANATION--Matter in ITALICS (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [ ] is old law to be omitted.

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