

5533

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

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

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

1 Section 1. The judiciary law is amended by adding a new section 391 to
2 read as follows:
3 S 391. REAL TIME COURT REPORTING SERVICES FOR DEAF OR HARD OF HEARING
4 INDIVIDUALS. 1. ANY PARTICIPANT IN A TRIAL, DEFENDANT, PLAINTIFF, COUN-
5 SEL, WITNESS, OR PROSPECTIVE JUROR WHO IS DEAF OR HARD OF HEARING SHALL
6 BE ACCORDED EQUAL ACCESS TO THE PROCEEDINGS BY HAVING AN OFFICIAL COURT
7 REPORTER PROVIDE COMMUNITY ACCESS REAL TIME ALLOWING THE PARTICIPANT TO
8 HAVE INSTANTANEOUS TRANSLATION OF THE COURT ROOM PROCEEDINGS.
9 2. FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, THE FOLLOWING TERMS SHALL HAVE
10 THE FOLLOWING MEANINGS:
11 (A) "OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER" MEANS ANY INDIVIDUAL EMPLOYED AS A STEN-
12 OGRAPHIC COURT REPORTER WHO FULFILLS THE REQUIREMENTS PURSUANT TO
13 SECTION TWO HUNDRED NINETY-ONE OF THIS CHAPTER.
14 (B) "COMMUNITY ACCESS REAL TIME (CART)" MEANS THE INSTANTANEOUS TRANS-
15 LATION OF EVERYTHING THAT IS SPOKEN IN THE COURT ROOM VIA A REAL TIME
16 FEED. A COURT REPORTER'S SOFTWARE CONVERTS SHORTHAND TRANSCRIPTION INTO
17 REAL TIME CAPTIONING IMMEDIATELY WHICH CAN BE DISPLAYED ON A COMPUTER OR
18 MONITOR.
19 S 2. This act shall take effect on the thirtieth day after it shall
20 have become a law.

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

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