

Supporting HB0651 and SB0464

- Dr. Lisalee D. Egbert
 - Deaf Community Member
 - Mother of Hard of Hearing children
 - Native American
 - Certified: Deaf Interpreter
- Coauthor for the bill
- Representing McDaniel College
 - Talk about the overall problem, and how MD is the only one of 5 states that have nothing for people who teach our DHOH children. McDaniel has a long history of graduating students who work in the education system.
 - Address what is available for current education, and for continuing education for interpreters, and what institutions are prepared to do – and which institutions they are - once this bill is reality.
 - As you know McDaniel is the only state in Maryland with a bachelor's degree in ASL. With the major, McDaniel already has or is in the works with articulation agreements with many community colleges that offer AA degrees in ASL and Deaf Studies which can transfer classes to McDaniel. With an ASL degree from McDaniel, alumni can sit for the interpreting national exams (test takers must have a BA or BS to take the exam). Again, only McDaniel offers a bachelor's in ASL and only Towson offers a Degree in Deaf Studies; meaning McDaniel is already posed to address the need for a bachelor's degree to take the exam(s) for the RID exam which is addressed in the bill.
 - Creating and ASL plus 1 for a Master's Degree in interpreting (there are no colleges or universities in Maryland that offer a Master's Degree in Interpreting.) The state is looking for how colleges and universities might play a role in interpreter education both now and in the future.
 - Supply and Demand
 - McDaniel has also offered to host the EIPA proctor to administer the test twice a year on campus; meaning McDaniel would be a state- and nation-wide testing site (we have already had 2 interpreters from Colorado willing to come and take the test at McDaniel because CO does not offer the test - making the McDaniel again known on the national level).