

Exemption 5 Stakeholder Meeting Summary from June 1st, 2018

Location: 1521 N 6th Street, Harrisburg, PA 17102; OVR Central Office; 1st floor Conference Room

Time: 10:00am - 1:00pm

Members in Attendance: Denise Brown (ODHH); Benjamin Moonan (ODHH); LaTanya Jones (PARID); Jeanne Bonnes (IRS); Russ Goddard (OVR); Jerry Penna (PSAD); John Nice (CDI); Dr. Jessica Bentley-Sassaman (ITP); Shatarupa Podder (PDE); Jen Perring (ERCHL); Melissa Hawkins (ODHH); Breann Gehringer (Prov. Interps);

Interpreters: Cindi Brown and Nichole Wade

CART: Terri O'Connor

Visitors: Rachael Hansell (Student Intern); Matt Seely (SILC)

Meeting Summary:

At the legislative meeting conducted yesterday, Bill Trusky's replacement, Joanne Manganello, discussed exemption #5 and what to do moving forward. Joanne said January of 2019 would be the best time to make the proposal. The public will have 60 days after the bill is made to add their opinions.

Read through a copy of Osvaldo's AOPC's positions regarding proposed modifications to Act 57.

Mentorship was discussed. Provisional registration changing from 3 to now 5 years means adding mentorship hours. Similar to the Bureau of Special Education, other professions do not offer grace periods for those who fail certification/licensing tests, so the mentorship hours are favorable. The establishment of a revolving account would aid facilitation of mentorship.

Discussion on the abuse of exemption #5 ensued. Deaf consumers should be made aware the interpreter is only provisionally registered before the interpreter arrives on site. Ideally, only sending certified interpreters (State Registered) to medical assignments/appointments would alleviate the problem.

A secret ballot was proposed to elicit stakeholders sentiments regarding removal of exemption #5. In lieu of the ballot, a form responding to all of Osvaldo's propositions will be distributed to each stakeholder representative. The representatives will survey their stakeholder groups and submit the responses to ODHH by July 1st, 2018.

Letters for legislative sponsors were discussed. One letter for the legislator sponsoring the bill specifically and another for the public to send to their senators to support the bill.

A meeting with legal to develop draft language will be held in August. The intention of the bill, either removal or amendment of exemption 5 will depend on the survey submissions. The next stakeholder meeting is set for October 26th.