



NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT

Pursuant to its authority under M.G.L. c. 69, section 1B, and in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act, M.G.L. c. 30A, § 3, the Massachusetts Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (Board) is soliciting public comment on proposed regulations, 603 CMR 57.00, Standards for Interpretation and Translation Services in Schools.

The proposed regulations reflect the amendments to G.L. c. 69, section 1B as set forth in section 25 of Chapter 14 of the Acts of 2025.

The board shall promulgate regulations establishing standards for the provision of interpretation and translation services, including standards for the qualification of interpreters and translators, to limited English proficient parents and legal guardians of all public school students. Such regulations shall include but not be limited to the following qualifications: (i) bilingualism; (ii) knowledge in both languages of specialized terms or concepts; (iii) training for interpreters and translators; (iv) ethics of interpreting and translating; and (v) the need to maintain confidentiality.

Copies of the proposed regulations are available on the Department's website at <https://www.doe.mass.edu/bese/regs-comments/default.html>, or at <http://www.doe.mass.edu/lawsregs/>, or by calling 781-338-3111. Public comments may be submitted online by completing this form <https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/8706469/Public-Comment-about-Proposed-Regulations-on-Standards-for-Interpretation-and-Translation-Services-in-Schools-603-CMR-57-00>, or by email to BESERegulationComments@mass.gov or by mail to: Regulations Public Comment, c/o Commissioner's Office, Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, 135 Santilli Highway, Everett, MA 02149. The deadline to submit public comment is **Friday, April 24, 2026, at 5:00 pm**. The Board is expected to vote on the proposed regulations at its regular monthly meeting in **June 2026**.

Small Business Impact Statement Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, §2

This statement accompanies the filing by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education of the proposed regulations to 603 CMR 57.00, Standards for Interpretation and Translation Services in Schools.

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1. The proposed amendments do not affect small businesses.
2. Since the proposed amendments do not affect small businesses, the following considerations are not applicable:
 - a. Reporting, record keeping or other administrative costs required of small businesses for compliance associated with the amendments.
 - b. Appropriateness of performance standards vs. design standards.
 - c. Regulations of this agency or any other state agency, which may duplicate or conflict with the proposed amendments.
 - d. Analysis of whether the proposed amendments are likely to deter or encourage the formation of new business in the state.

Submitted by:



Rhoda E. Schneider, on behalf of the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

Date: 3/2/2026