

## 1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 37.1-67.5:01, relating to*  
3 *interpreters in mental commitment proceedings.*

4  
5 Approved

[S 24]

6 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**

7 **1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 37.1-67.5:01 as follows:**

8 *§ 37.1-67.5:01. Interpreters for non-English-speaking persons in commitment or certification*  
9 *proceedings.*

10 *In any proceeding pursuant to § 37.1-65.1 or §§ 37.1-67.1 through 37.1-67.4 in which a*  
11 *non-English-speaking person is alleged to be mentally retarded or mentally ill or is a witness in such*  
12 *proceeding, an interpreter for such person shall be appointed by the judge, or in the case of*  
13 *§ 37.1-67.1, a magistrate before whom such proceeding is pending. Failure to appoint an interpreter*  
14 *when an interpreter is not reasonably available or when the person's level of English fluency cannot be*  
15 *determined, shall not be a basis to dismiss the petition or void the order entered at such proceeding.*  
16 *The compensation for such interpreter shall be fixed by the court in accordance with the guidelines set*  
17 *by the Judicial Council of Virginia and shall be paid out of the state treasury.*

ENROLLED

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