

**BILL SUMMARY**  
1<sup>st</sup> Session of the 55<sup>th</sup> Legislature

<b>Bill No.:</b>	<b>HB2159</b>
<b>Version:</b>	<b>Introduced</b>
<b>Request Number:</b>	<b>5933</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Rep. Echols</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>2/3/2015</b>
<b>Impact:</b>	<b>Please see previous summary of this measure</b>

**Research Analysis**

Introduced HB2159 modifies the appointment criteria for the State Board of Examiners of Certified Courtroom Interpreters and requires the Administrative Office of the Courts to provide administrative support and assistance to the board in establishing guidelines for training and certifying Oklahoma courtroom interpreters.

The measure also allows the Supreme Court to promulgate rules that:

- authorizes the use of oral and written interpreter exams.
- establish interpreter credentialing standards consistent with the standards recognized by the National Center for State Courts. The standards and exams created by the Supreme Court may be used by the board in lieu of the current examination and credentialing standards.
- authorizes the courts to use interpreters listed on a nationally recognized database of certified courtroom interpreters. These interpreters may apply to be enrolled as an Oklahoma certified courtroom interpreter upon payment of fees and approval by the Supreme Court.
- authorizes the recognition of different levels of courtroom interpreters which may be designated as Certified Courtroom Interpreters and Registered Courtroom Interpreters. The abbreviation R.C.I. may be used to identify an individual as a registered courtroom interpreter.

Furthermore, the measure authorizes the board to conduct a criminal history record check of applicants through the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation or Federal Bureau of Investigation. The measure also removes the requirement for the board to annually set and publish a fee schedule and allows the Chief Justice to draw from the Supreme Court Revolving Fund for expenses incurred by the Supreme Court for administration of the interpreter credentialing and examination program.

Prepared By: Quyen Do

**Fiscal Analysis**

Please see previous summary of this measure.

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**Other Considerations**

None.

