



Top 10 Reasons Why Your Senator Should Fix AB 1850

July 2020

10. Because the bill has come to the state Senate, which adjourns Aug. 31, 2020.
9. AB 1850 contains an **ultra-narrow exemption** that covers only “certified translators,” just 2 percent of independent language professionals in California.
8. Because professional interpreters are completely excluded. This puts thousands of livelihoods in danger.
7. After months of contact by her constituents and with CoPTIC, **the bill’s author pledged on the Assembly floor on June 11 that Senators would redress the omission of interpreters.**
<https://youtu.be/kpkBxHhKk2s>
6. Because more than 75 percent of translators and interpreters work independently by choice. And imposing employee status on professional interpreters is just as wrong as on translators.
<http://coalitionptic.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/The-State-of-the-Linguist-Supply-Chain-1.pdf>
5. Certification is laudable but not available for the vast majority of languages nor most contexts. Setting that requirement disqualifies other proven professional credentials.
<http://coalitionptic.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/The-catch-22-with-certifications.pdf>
4. Because amending “certified translators” with 4 simple words will fix the problem:
“Professional translators and interpreters.”
3. Hundreds of professional translators and interpreters have communicated this message with their Senators.
2. Because the COVID health emergency is reinforcing that **reliable language access is a life-or-death issue.**
<https://calmatters.org/commentary/the-importance-of-considering-professional-interpreters-in-ab-1850/>
1. **Professional livelihoods count.** Whether those livelihoods will be protected is in Senators’ hands.

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