

# STATE OF COLORADO

DEPARTMENT OF REGULATORY AGENCIES  
Office of Policy, Research and Regulatory Reform  
Bruce Harrelson, Director

1560 Broadway, Suite 1550  
Denver, CO 80202  
Phone: (303) 894-7855  
FAX: (303) 894-7885  
[www.dora.state.co.us/opr](http://www.dora.state.co.us/opr)



Bill Ritter, Jr.  
Governor  
D. Rico Munn  
Executive Director

## NEWS RELEASE

**For Immediate Release**  
March 2, 2009

**Contact:**  
Bruce Harrelson, Director  
303-894-2992

### **2009 Sunrise Review of Sign Language Interpreters Released – Title Protection May be Warranted in a Limited Fashion**

Denver, Colorado --- The Department of Regulatory Agencies' Office of Policy, Research and Regulatory Reform has released a sunrise review examining the need for state regulation of sign language interpreters. A sunrise review is required when any interested party proposes state regulation of a currently unregulated occupation or profession. Sunrise reviews determine whether the public is being harmed by the unregulated practice of an occupation or profession and whether there are less burdensome alternatives. These reviews are presented to the General Assembly to better enable it to evaluate the need for the regulation and to determine the least restrictive regulatory alternative consistent with the public interest.

A sunrise application was filed requesting title protection for sign language interpreters. The applicant contends that harm to consumers has occurred, and title protection offers the best approach for ensuring that all sign language interpreters working for hire in Colorado meet the appropriate minimum qualification standards for specific types of interpreting situations. The 2009 sunrise review of sign language interpreters finds that title protection is a measured approach that may offer some protection to the deaf and hard of hearing and may benefit those who secure the services of sign language interpreters. Consequently, the review recommended that title protection may be warranted in a limited fashion.

Please visit <http://www.dora.state.co.us/opr/oprpublications.htm> for the complete reviews.



*DORA is dedicated to preserving the integrity of the marketplace and is committed to promoting a fair and competitive business environment in Colorado. Consumer protection is our mission.*

//End//