Resolutions

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WHEREAS, to establish the “pools” of interpreters for that network, LAAC developed a method for categorizing court interpreter qualifications on a national basis, or the National Proficiency Designations for Interpreters structure (NPDI), which sets forth a tiered-qualifications structure for foreign language and sign language court interpreters based primarily on court interpreter oral examination scores (using tests developed through the work of the former Consortium on Language Access in the Courts and the NCSC); and

WHEREAS, the NPDI tiered structure is intended to assist state courts by establishing parameters for VRI services so that states entering into agreements with VRI service providers can be assured that they can access court interpreter resources that best meet their needs; and

WHEREAS, the NPDI structure will not control or affect how states manage court interpreter certification within their own states; and

WHEREAS, the NCSC has agreed to maintain the shared national court VRI network on behalf of CCJ and COSCA;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Conference of Chief Justices and the Conference of State Court Administrators:

1. Authorize LAAC, with the assistance of the Council of Language Access Coordinators, to promulgate and amend as necessary the National Proficiency Designations for Interpreters tiered structure to further efforts to establish a shared national court VRI network; and

2. Express appreciation to the National Center for State Courts for its willingness to maintain the shared national court VRI network on behalf of the Conference of Chief Justices and the Conference of State Court Administrators, and for its overall efforts to promote the availability of effective VRI solutions for state courts.

Adopted as proposed by the CCJ/COSCA Access, Fairness and Public Trust Committee at the 2013 Annual Meeting on July 31, 2013