



SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL
Snohomish County, Washington

PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 26-021

**RECOGNIZING MAY 6, 2026,
AS COURT INTERPRETER APPRECIATION DAY
IN SNOHOMISH COUNTY**

WHEREAS, equal access to courts is a cornerstone of the American system of justice and the rule of law; and

WHEREAS, language barriers impede access to justice for individuals who are limited-English proficient or individuals who are deaf, deaf-blind, hard of hearing or speech-disabled individuals who rely on signed language and other assistive communication; and

WHEREAS, Snohomish County District and Superior Courts depend on skilled spoken language interpreters to ensure clear and accurate communication with limited-English proficient litigants, witnesses, victims, and other participants across all case types; and

WHEREAS, the courts further rely on qualified sign language interpreters to facilitate effective communication with deaf, deaf-blind, hard of hearing, and speech-disabled individuals appearing as litigants, witnesses, victims, jurors, or members of the public; and

WHEREAS, court interpreters bring specialized cognitive, linguistic, and legal knowledge—including mastery of court terminology and procedures—enabling precise, impartial, and culturally competent interpretation that is essential for fair hearings and due process; and

WHEREAS, these dedicated professionals uphold the highest ethical standards of accuracy, impartiality, confidentiality, and professionalism, thereby safeguarding the integrity of court proceedings and strengthening public confidence in our justice system.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, Snohomish County Council recognizes May 6, 2026, as Court Interpreter Appreciation Day in Snohomish County recognizing and honoring the indispensable contributions of court interpreters to ensuring equal access to justice for all residents of our diverse community. We urge all citizens, elected officials, legal professionals, court personnel, and community stakeholders at the state and local levels to join us in celebrating and expressing heartfelt gratitude for the expertise, dedication, and vital service provided by court interpreters every day.

APPROVED this _____ day of _____, 2026.

Megan Dunn
Council Chair

Sam Low
Council Vice-Chair

Nate Nehring
Councilmember

Jared Mead
Councilmember

Strom Peterson
Councilmember

ATTEST: _____
Elena Lao, CMC
Deputy Clerk of the Council