

## National Coalition on Health Care Interpreter Certification

### NCC Members:

The Executive Committee of the Interpreting Stakeholder Group (ISG) would like to express its concern regarding NCC's change from the original goal of establishing a national certification process to merely setting standards for certification. This is a significant departure from the goals originally stated by the NCC when the ISG was accepted as a member organization.

The ISG is a consortium that represents a broad range of organizations including interpreting associations, language companies, employers of interpreters or purchasers of interpreter services, healthcare insurance companies, healthcare professionals, interpreter educators, government entities, community representatives, lobbying organizations, and advocacy groups.

While we recognize the importance of creating national certification standards, we are concerned about limiting the goals of the NCC to creating only standards, rather than creating a unified national process of certification. In view of this concern, and with the backing of the broad consortium we represent, the ISG Executive Committee requests the following:

1. That the NCC create a formal process to solicit feedback from the field when a decision of this magnitude is to be made by the NCC. The ISG membership is looking for a process that will consider our input in situations such as this decision to change the organization's purpose and aims. Eventually, what the NCC produces will need to be something the organization members will be able to endorse.
2. That during the January 2009 NCC meeting to be convened in Los Angeles the NCC revisit the decision to change the direction of the NCC, making the final decision on the basis of the feedback received from all member organizations.

Our organization is committed to continuing its support of the work and goals of the NCC, which is why we strongly urge the NCC to seek and consider input from all the member organizations when making a decision of this importance.

Cordially,

Carol Berg, Chair  
ISG Executive Committee