



State of Wisconsin
2025 - 2026 LEGISLATURE

LRB-3132/1

KRP:cjs

2025 SENATE BILL 295

May 30, 2025 - Introduced by Senators KAPENGA and BRADLEY, cosponsored by Representatives MAXEY, KITCHENS, ALLEN, ARMSTRONG, BEHNKE, BRILL, DITTRICH, DONOVAN, GUNDRUM, GUSTAFSON, KAUFERT, KNODL, KREIBICH, MELOTIK, MURPHY, MURSAU, NEYLON, O'CONNOR, PENTERMAN, PIWOWARCZYK and WICHGERS. Referred to Committee on Judiciary and Public Safety.

1 **AN ACT** *to renumber* 807.14; *to renumber and amend* 967.09; *to create*
2 807.14 (2), 885.37 (6), 885.38 (9) and 967.09 (2) of the statutes; **relating to:**
3 the use of artificial intelligence or other machine assisted translation in court
4 proceedings and of telephone or live audiovisual interpretation in criminal
5 trials.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under this bill, a court may allow the use of artificial intelligence or other machine assisted translation in civil or criminal proceedings, certain municipal proceedings, and administrative contested case proceedings.

Under current law, on request of any party, the court may permit an interpreter to act in any criminal proceeding, other than trial, by telephone or live audiovisual means. The bill allows an interpreter to act by telephone or live audiovisual means in a criminal trial in addition to other types of proceedings.

For further information see the state and local fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

SENATE BILL 295**SECTION 1**

SECTION 1. 807.14 of the statutes is renumbered 807.14 (1).

SECTION 2. 807.14 (2) of the statutes is created to read:

807.14 (2) The court may allow the use of artificial intelligence or other machine assisted translation, in lieu of or in addition to an interpreter, in any civil proceeding.

SECTION 3. 885.37 (6) of the statutes is created to read:

885.37 (6) A municipal court or agency may allow the use of artificial intelligence or other machine assisted translation, in lieu of or in addition to an interpreter, under this section. Such use does not require a waiver under sub. (1) or (3) (b).

SECTION 4. 885.38 (9) of the statutes is created to read:

885.38 (9) The court may allow the use of artificial intelligence or other machine assisted translation, in lieu of or in addition to a qualified interpreter, under this section. Such use does not require a waiver under sub. (4) (a).

SECTION 5. 967.09 of the statutes is renumbered 967.09 (1) and amended to read:

967.09 (1) On request of any party, the court may permit an interpreter to act in any criminal proceeding, ~~other than trial~~, by telephone or live audiovisual means.

SECTION 6. 967.09 (2) of the statutes is created to read:

967.09 (2) The court may allow the use of artificial intelligence or other machine assisted translation, in lieu of or in addition to an interpreter, in any criminal proceeding.

(END)