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Subject: FW: comment in support of GR 11 proposal
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From: Magda Baker [mailto:Magda@defensenet.org]
Sent: Thursday, April 7, 2022 10:33 PM
To: OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK <SUPREME@COURTS.WA.GOV>
Subject: comment in support of GR 11 proposal

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The Washington Defender Association (WDA) supports the Washington State Supreme Court Interpreter Commission's proposed changes to GR 11. The changes would authorize courts to provide written information necessary to access judicial proceedings in languages other than English.

Currently, interpreters convey valuable information to people in court when a lawyer, judge or witness speaks that information. However, court participants do not always get all necessary information verbally. Additionally, information about upcoming proceedings can be complex enough that people may want to review it in written form outside the often rushed and crowded environment of a court house. Providing written materials of uniform content in multiple languages would give all involved in Washington's court system the opportunity to better understand how to access the courts.

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