

The Hon. Mitch Greenlick, Chairman before the House Committee on Health Care

Oregon State Legislature 900 Court Street NE Salem, OR 97301

February 6, 2015

Dear Honorable Representative Greenlick,

My name is Steven M. Brown, and I am Chair of the Oregon Association of the Deaf (OAD) legislative subcommittee. I am pleased to welcome Chad A. Ludwig, OAD President to testify on behalf of our subcommittee and before your committee today as I cannot be here today.

We would like to take a moment to share what we are doing, and impress upon you both its importance and what an honor it is to both participate in and observe in its effects.

OAD supports HB 2419. We also endorse Oregon Health Authority (OHA) letter and its testimony. A need for certified healthcare interpreters are urgent; so, it is imperative to note that HB 2419 needs to incorporate American Sign Language (ASL) and Video Remote Interpreting (VRI) healthcare interpreters as well. Please consider our support associated with the recommendations to amend HB 2419 enclosed documents that can be found in this support letter.

Thank you for your strong leadership and for your commitment to make it achievable for all.

Sincerely,

Steven M Brown, MPA, MA Chair, OAD Legislation Subcommittee

Chad A. Luchwig

Chad A. Ludwig, MSW President