



Representative Bobby Levy

Serving Umatilla, Union & Wallowa Counties

Thank you Chairs Senator Beyer and Representative McLain, Co-Chairs Senator Boquist and Representative Noble, and members of the Joint Committee on Transportation for granting the opportunity to submit testimony on HB 2498.

HB 2498 is a common-sense bill that will directly impact the safety and security of deaf or hard of hearing Oregonians and has wide bipartisan and bicameral support.

As a young child, my sister went deaf as a reaction to medicine and it was the scariest thing to happen in her entire life. I remember how terrified my mother was over the safety consequences for my sister and the difficulties she would have to overcome to move successfully in the hearing world. This bill would grant validation to hard of hearing or deaf Oregonians and make sure that police officers are aware of their situation without escalation.

This bill will directly impact the fear and anxiety that hard of hearing or deaf Oregonians feel when driving and will discourage any misconceptions that police officers may have during routine interactions.

Please support HB 2498.

Representative Bobby Levy, HD58