• Julíe Gebron •

RID/NAD certified ASL Interpreter

April 2, 2021

M. Ed. MI.Special Education Rep. Rachel Prusak, Chair House Committee on Health Care 900 Court St. NE Salem, OR 97301

Re:Support for HB3231, the Oregon Sign Language Interpreter Licensure Bill

To Chair Prusak, Vice-Chair Hayden, Vice-Chair Salinas, and members of the Committee:

As a nationally certified professional American Sign Language interpreter, I am writing to urge the Committee's support of HB 3231.

During my career, there have been many instances where I have observed individuals who represent themselves as sign language interpreters delivering inappropriate, inaccurate and unethical "interpreting" services in a variety of settings. This common reality for Oregon's Deaf, DeafBlind and Hard of Hearing citizens puts them at risk in every communication interaction where it occurs.

More than 30 other states have addresses this problem through enacting licensure legislation which has proven to increase the quality of communication access for Deaf, DeafBlind and Hard of Hearing individuals.

For these reasons and many more, I urge the Committee's support of HB3231, the Oregon Sign Language Interpreter Licensure Bill.

Thank you,

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