



Oregon Association of the Deaf

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Rep. Rachel Prusak,

Chair House Committee on Health Care
900 Court St. NE Salem, OR 97301

April 6, 2021

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

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

My name is Jeb Baldrige. I am currently an Oregon Association of the Deaf, President. This is necessity of utmost attention to the Committee's SUPPORT of HB3231.

I have read other Deaf individual's testimonies for HB3231 and I was heartening when reading other Deaf individuals in Oregon have experienced with unqualified sign language user to communicate facilitating between a hearing individual and Deaf individuals. This bill WILL create PREVENTION from wide range of interpretation settings from education, community to medical settings from incompetent ASL interpreter. This will prevent such as; decreasing chance of lawsuit, loss of job when not communicated thoroughly and etc.

This bill will give over hundred thousand Deaf, DeafBlind and this including all kinds of hearing losses for Oregonian individuals to access uncomplicated and secure in any ASL interpreting settings. This law will enforce in sign language or tactile and even other kinds of communication facilitation to certified through state or national level requirements for all kinds of Hearing Losses communications.

This is from my experience in the past, when there's a fake sign language interpreter shows up and I would have to dismiss the fake sign language interpreter then make a new appointment dates. It takes a toll on a Deaf, DeafBlind and other hearing losses individual in Oregon with all frustration and waste of time and probably money on either side.

This message is my duty as a President of this organization and in the best interest for our community. This also shared from my own personal experience as a Deaf individual. I would be appreciate if you willing to able to vote "aye" and this way we can communicate with integrity without misunderstanding from a person who are unable to deliver your message to our (Deaf, DeaBlind) community.

Sincerely,
Jeb Baldrige
President
2020 – 2021 term
Oregon Association of the Deaf, Inc.

