

Legislative Fiscal Office

Oregon State Capitol
900 Court Street NE, H-178
Salem, Oregon 97301
503-986-1828



Joint Committee on Ways and Means

Senator Elizabeth Steiner, Senate Co-Chair
Representative Tawna Sanchez, House Co-Chair

Senator Fred Girod, Senate Co-Vice Chair
Representative David Gomberg, House Co-Vice Chair
Representative Greg Smith, House Co-Vice Chair

Amanda Beitel, Legislative Fiscal Officer
Tom MacDonald, Deputy Legislative Fiscal Officer (Budget)
Paul Siebert, Deputy Legislative Fiscal Officer (Audit/IT)

To: Human Services Subcommittee

From: MaryMichelle Sosne, Legislative Fiscal Office

Date: May 25, 2023

Subject: HB 2696 – Relating to sign language interpreters.
Work Session Recommendations

HB 2696 establishes the State Board of Sign Language Interpreters within the Health Licensing Office. The State Board of Sign Language Interpreters is charged with assisting the Health Licensing Office in establishing a public registry of licensees, developing a process to receive and address grievances, adopting rules, and establishing minimum qualifications and standards for licensees and renewals of licenses.

The measure authorizes the Health Licensing Office, budgeted within the Oregon Health Authority, to grant licenses for sign language interpreters, supervisory sign language interpreters, educational sign language interpreters, medical sign language interpreters, legal sign language interpreters, and provisional sign language interpreter licenses, subject to the requirements of the measure.

The Health Licensing Office is directed to establish rules to implement the measure, including fees, in conjunction with the Department of Education and the State Board of Sign Language Interpreters.

Recommended Changes

LFO recommends adoption of the -2 amendment. The -2 amendment includes \$100,100 Other Funds. These funds will be used for board member compensation and associated services and supplies costs, administrative fees for the Health Licensing Office, communication materials, subject matter expert consultation fees, and Department of Justice fees.

MOTION: I move adoption of the -2 amendment to HB 2696. (VOTE)

Final Subcommittee Action

LFO recommends that HB 2696, as amended by the -2 amendment, be moved to the Ways and Means Full Committee.

MOTION: I move HB 2696, as amended, to the Full Committee with a do pass recommendation. (VOTE)

Carriers

Full Committee: _____

House Floor: _____

Senate Floor: _____