

**SB 685 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

**Carrier:** Sen. Manning Jr

**Senate Committee On Human Services**

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**Action Date:** 02/20/23

**Action:** Do pass.

**Vote:** 4-1-0-0

**Yeas:** 4 - Gelser Blouin, Manning Jr, Prozanski, Weber

**Nays:** 1 - Robinson

**Fiscal:** No fiscal impact

**Revenue:** No revenue impact

**Prepared By:** Iva Sokolovska, LPRO Analyst

**Meeting Dates:** 2/8, 2/20

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Modifies definition of “communication facilitator” to include providing assistive services to deaf individuals with physical disability that limits the person’s expressive communication.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Current definition of communication facilitator
- Expanding or narrowing current definition
- Access to services for the deaf community and spectrum of accessibility needs

**EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:**

Oregon Law (ORS 759.693) defines a “communication facilitator” as someone who provides professional assistive services that are necessary for effective communication for persons who are deaf, deaf-blind, or hard of hearing and have a physical disability that limits their expressive communication.

Senate Bill 685 would add persons who are deaf and have a physical disability that limits their expressive communication to the list of persons communication facilitators serve.