

Rep. Rob Nosse

House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

900 Court St. NE

Salem, OR 97301

January 27, 2023

SUBJECT: Support for HB 2696, the Oregon Sign Language Interpreter Licensure Bill

To the Chair Nosse, Vice-Chair Goodwin, Vice-Chair Nelson, and members of the Committee:

My name is Adam Logan, I have worn hearing aids since I was 5 years old. I grew up here in Oregon, and I am a part of the deaf/hard of hearing community, I also have some experience Deaf Interpreting (distinct from hearing interpreters), and have a unique perspective of both the deaf/hard of hearing community and the interpreting profession.

I am writing to say I support the passing of bill HB2696, I can attest that I have personally experienced under-qualified–rookie, or difficult to understand senior interpreters with stiff fingers in medical settings where misunderstandings can have severe consequences.

I had my reservations in the original bill HB3231. Having read the new bill HB2696, I am satisfied that there will be representation by deaf, hard of hearing, and deaf interpreters going forward, and I also heard that the cost to interpreting professionals has been reduced by changing the department responsible for processing payments. With that I am satisfied.

Please pass bill HB2696.

Sincerely,

Adam Logan

277 Edwards Rd S, Unit 127

Monmouth OR 97361