

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: I am writing to urge this Committee to support HB 2696.

This is my letter expressing you my support for getting/ requiring licensure for sign language interpreters! As myself, a Deaf advocate and former Deaf president of OAD and now retired PCC ASL instructor over 31 years, I strongly encourage you the members of committees consider to get this bill HB2696 passed that will give a strong qualified accessibility for Deaf people! My understanding is that our current ADA is

doing for the disabled people for the accessibility and it was grateful to have the bill but we need more teeth stronger specifically on using qualified / licensed interpreters to meet our communication needs seriously! I had confronted several interpreters doing terrible due to their unskilled professional job, very frustrating for us! Thank you for your attention to this matter!

Betsy Burks  
Retired PCC ASL Instructor  
Portland, Oregon