

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.

Hi! I am a RID Certified Sign Language Interpreter in SE WA and interpret for Oregonian clients regularly in the NE corner of Oregon. Due to lack of quality communication access they may drive over

to WA state to places like the Tri-Cities for their critical appointments. I fully support licensure as a way to provide consistently professional qualified interpreters for medical, legal, employment, social services (ie: DSHS/SSA) appointments. Of special consideration are DeafBlind clients who need trained and qualified tactile ASL interpreters for important personal and professional decision making access. Please pass HB2696 and support effective expressive and receptive quality communication access for Deaf, Hard of Hearing and DeafBlind citizens in OR.

Thank you!

Shelly Hansen, RID certified Sign language interpreter
RID#12877
509-554-0564 v/t