

Submitter: Allison Delach

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

Measure: HB2994

I am writing in support of this bill.

Imagine going to school and being unable to hear your teacher or classmates? How is a child support to learn and succeed when they cannot make out the literal words?

Over the past several years I have watched my sister argue increasingly with insurance to get basic tests, ear molds, etc covered for her child. Without proper testing, proper ear molds, batteries, my sister's child wouldn't be able to participate in their classroom or play at recess with friends. Insurance companies, instead of helping those at need, are looking for loopholes to deny and limit coverage of hearing services and equipment. For example, it is apparently shocking that a child who is growing might need new ear molds more than once year. Instead of seeing a child who desperately wants to learn and converse, they see a drag on their bottom line, a detriment to their profits.

It is necessary that this law mandating coverage is enacted to protect those who are hard of hearing and deaf in the state of Oregon.