



Disability Rights Oregon

TO: House Committee on Rules
FROM: Disability Rights Oregon
DATE: March 28, 2023
RE: In support of HB 2422

Chair Fahey, Vice Chairs Breese-Iverson and Kropf, and members of the Committee,

House bill 2422 clarifies the policy of the State of Oregon, that legislators with disabilities will be adequately accommodated in accordance with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act through the Legislative Administrator.

HB 2422 is an important recognition that legislators who have rights and protections as a person with a disability are accommodated so that they can effectively do their jobs. But more importantly HB 2422 sends a message to Oregonians with disabilities that they are welcome and encouraged to serve your state as a legislator. This may seem like this bill is not needed but this bill is necessary because it clarifies that the job of a legislator is more than what happens in the capital and seeks to extend accommodations to in district work and any other legislative work where ever that may be.

Disability Rights Oregon was very pleased to be working with Representative Hudson on this very important legislation. As the legislature becomes more professionalized, this is an important step to ensure that elected leaders will have access to what they need to fulfill their duties if they qualify as a person with a disability. HB 2422 sends a message to Oregonians with disabilities that we are an important part of our communities and our prospectives and experiences would be a valued addition to the legislature.

About Disability Rights Oregon

Since 1977 Disability Rights Oregon has been the State's Protection and Advocacy System.¹ We are authorized by Congress to protect, advocate, and enforce the rights of people with disabilities under the U.S. Constitution and Federal and State laws, investigate abuse and neglect of people with disabilities, and “pursue administrative,

511 SW 10th Avenue, Suite 200 / Portland, OR 97205

Voice: 503-243-2081 or 1-800-452-1694 / Fax: 503-243-1738 / www.droregon.org

Disability Rights Oregon is the Protection and Advocacy System for Oregon

legal, and other appropriate remedies".² We are also mandated to "educate policymakers" on matters related to people with disabilities.³

If you have any questions regarding DRO's position on this legislation, please call Meghan Moyer at 503-432-5777 or email her at mmoyer@droregon.org