



Oregon Legislature
900 Court St. NE
Salem, OR 97301

February 5, 2024

To the Esteemed Chair, Vice Chair, and Esteemed Members of the Committee,

Greetings! This letter is crafted with the intent to foster understanding and raise awareness regarding the needs of Deaf, DeafBlind, and Hard of Hearing Oregonians within our state. Over the years, this culturally and linguistically diverse community has faced barriers in accessing essential information, goods, and services across Oregon.

Established in 2017, Bridges Oregon, Inc. stands as a statewide culturally and linguistically specific and responsive nonprofit organization serving Oregonians who are Deaf, DeafBlind, or Hard of Hearing or face other communication barriers. It is in our mission to facilitate equity and inclusiveness and to provide a bridge to opportunities through advocacy, education, and communication.

Bridges Oregon SUPPORTS this Bill.

Thank you for your attention to this matter, and we remain open to further discussions and collaboration on this important issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Chad A. Ludwig". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large loop at the end.

Chad A. Ludwig, MSW, ADAC, OHCI, CDI
Executive Director