

Submitter: ALICA DELGADO ESPRIU
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care
Measure: SB1578

Hello,

I am writing to express my strong support for the idea of implementing a scheduling system that allows the state to directly engage and compensate Oregon Interpreters, rather than relying on language companies as intermediaries. Having worked as an Oregonian Interpreter for 5 years, I have firsthand experience of the inefficiencies and limitations inherent in the current system.

Transitioning to a model where the state pays interpreters directly would offer several significant advantages. Firstly, it would streamline the scheduling process, reducing administrative burdens and ensuring more efficient allocation of interpreter services. By eliminating the need to coordinate through language companies, hospitals, courts, and any location would have greater flexibility in scheduling interpreters based on their specific language skills and availability.

Furthermore, direct payment from the state would provide interpreters with more transparency and control over their compensation. Currently, interpreters often receive only a fraction of the fees charged by language companies, despite being the ones delivering the services. Direct payment would enable interpreters to receive fair and timely compensation for their vital work, thereby enhancing job satisfaction and retention rates within the profession.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I am available to discuss this further and provide any additional information or insights that may be helpful in evaluating this proposal.

Sincerely,

-Alica Delgado Espriu
Certified Medical Interpreter