Submitter: Adriana Arce

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care

Measure: SB1578

Subject: Opposition to SB1578
Dear Senate Health Care Committee, as an Oregon-qualified Spanish medical interpreter, I am writing to
express my opposition to SB1578.

As a healthcare interpreter, I interact with several portals from different agencies. Some are good and
some are bad. The most important thing that matters when working with an agency is that there are
schedulers who can assist me in creating my schedule. This has been a much better system for me
compared to the portals.
The portals force interpreters to compete for every assignment, and one has to drive from one end of
town to the next. Instead of being assigned to the same place all day.
I am not convinced that having a portal that is state-run will prove to be efficient. It seems that for it to
work they will need to hire schedulers. This will run up the cost of the portal. So does that mean they
will cut into what we make per hour? If so, how is this any different than working with some of the
current agencies that we work with?
Something I value with the agencies that I work with is that they handle all of my paperwork. They run
my background checks. They run my name through the Medicaid exclusion list monthly, send me
reminders for HIPAA training, etc.
I am concerned that the non profit will again have to hire someone to ensure that myself and other
interpreters are keeping up with all of the documentation. Will they be efficient? Will it again cut into
the potential earnings of working via the nonprofit?

Thank you,
Adriana Arce