

Submitter: Jay Tomlinson

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care

Measure: SB1578

My name is Jay Tomlinson, I am a community organizer with Unite Oregon. I am writing in support of SB 1578

I come from a line of medical professionals. My mom, aunt and grandma are/were all nurses and my uncle is a medical masseurs and hospice worker. Everyone needs access to medical care that they can understand. It is vital if they are to know what is happening within their bodies, how to take their medicine properly or understand what is happening next. Interpreters are just as vital to the medical office as the doctor because without them, the doctors' words mean nothing. If we treat our interpreters better, there will be more of them lessening the strain on the medical system and making medical care available for countless more people.

Please support this bill. It will improve countless lives and save countless lives. This is a matter of keeping people alive. Without interpreters, without the ability to understand how to stay healthy, we may as well not have medical care at all. SB 1578 bridges a vital gap we can't ignore.