

To: Senate Committee on Health Care  
From: Renee Green, Oregon Interpreters in Action  
Re: Support for Statewide Health Care Interpreter Portal

Dear Chair Patterson, Vice-Chair Hayden, and members of the Committee,

My name is Renee Green and I am a Mandarin, Cantonese and Taishanese interpreter. I have been doing health care interpreting for 15 years. This is a huge achievement and I am very proud to do this job because I know how important it is to understand your health.

Without a qualified interpreter, someone might still get help, but along the way there will be misinformation and the risk of delayed treatment. People might misunderstand the severity of their illness and that can cause a lot of problems for people.

We need to get paid fairly for the work that we do, and that's not happening with the current system that we use. Interpreting companies don't pay and schedule us fairly.

If there were a way that we could get appointments directly from the state, at least we might get paid fairly.