



# Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

Department of Human Services

*Aging and People with Disabilities*

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March 29, 2017



Chair Sara Gelser  
Vice-Chair Alan Olsen  
Members of Senate Human Services Committee

Re: SB1018 Testimony

Chair Gelser:

My name is Mike McCormick. I am the Deputy Director for the Aging and People with Disabilities Program within the Department of Human Services. Thank you for the opportunity to testify today on SB1018.

SB1018 authorizes an array of valuable services for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Community. The bill establishes a new "Oregon Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing Committee." The committee is comprised of nine volunteer members appointed by the Director of DHS.

The bill also gives the Committee of appointed volunteers the authority to administer the program. We do not believe this situation is viable nor practical.

The Department is officially neutral on this bill. However, if the Legislature advances this bill, the Department recommends the bill be amended so that the Committee advises the Department in the administration of the bill's requirements. The Department of Human Services would then be responsible and accountable for fulfilling the requirements in the bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Mike McCormick, Deputy Director  
Aging and People with Disabilities Program  
Department of Human Services

*"Assisting People to Become Independent, Healthy and Safe"*