

March 28, 2017

Chair Representative Alissa Keny-Guyer
Co-Chair Representatives Alan Olson
Members of the House Committee on Human Services and Housing
House Committee on Human Services and Housing
Oregon State Legislature
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Chair Representative Keny-Guyer, Co-Chair Representative Olson, and the Members of the House Committee on Human Services and Housing,

My name is Steven M Brown. I am a state registered lobbyist on behalf of Oregon Association of the Deaf (OAD) and I am also a Vice President of that Association.

I would like to extend the concerns regarding HB 3160.

More specifically, I would like to see if the lines on page 1 of printed bill are amended as followed:

In line 21, delete "blind and deaf" and insert "deaf-blind".

In line 22, delete "blind and deaf" and insert "deaf-blind".

In line 25, delete "blind and deaf" and insert "deaf-blind".

In line 27, delete "blind and deaf" and insert "deaf-blind".

Also, I would like to see if the lines on page 2 of printed bill are amended as followed:

In line 2, delete "blind and".

In line 3, delete "deaf" and insert "deaf-blind".

In line 5, delete "blind and deaf" and insert "deaf-blind".

In line 13, delete "blind and deaf" and insert "deaf-blind".

In line 17, delete "blind and deaf" and insert "deaf-blind".

In line 22, delete "blind and deaf" and insert "deaf-blind".

In short, the appropriate way to rephrase in this legislation under those lines are, "...who have limited vision or pedestrians who are blind or Deaf-Blind..."

Lastly, I wish to thank Co-Chair Representative Alan Olson for his support on the amendments on HB 3160. The reason for such amendments is a common-sense thing and the right thing to do because it clarifies the identification of specific population that is actual represented.

Thank you and I look forward to working with you on this bill amendments.

Best regards,
Steven M Brown
State Registered Lobbyist on behalf of OAD
Vice President of OAD

Hon. Margaret Doherty,

I am now back home after having just completed two weeks of training with my new guide dog, Pickles. Quite an unusual name, to say the least but I have to admit, it grows on you.

I am in receipt of several emails from Steven Brown, VP of the Oregon Association of the Deaf, who reached out to you regarding verbiage in SB 3160 which identifies “deaf and blind” individuals. The more acceptable term for that is “Deaf-Blind.”

My next question to you is: what predicated the introduction of SB 3160? Where did the definition of “limited vision” come from? I’ve read through this piece of legislation and am trying to understand why it was necessary in the first place?

Regards,

Terry Blosser, Executive MPA, Certified ADA Coordinator
