

Rosenberg Corey

From: Anne McLaughlin <annemcla@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, April 10, 2017 11:49 AM
To: Sen Gelser; Sen Olsen; Sen Dembrow; Sen Knopp; Sen MonnesAnderson
Cc: SHS Exhibits; Clark Anderson; Mitch Turbin; David S. Viers; Andrea Cabral; Inc Oregon Association of the Deaf; Steven M. Brown
Subject: SB 1018 and SB 1023, Work Session 4/10/17

Dear Senator Gelser and members of the Senate Committee on Human Services,

I am writing as an Oregon citizen with hearing loss, one who relies on speech to communicate, and does not know ASL. I have been active in the Portland Chapter of the Hearing Loss Assn of America, and have served on its board for over ten years. At our meetings, and in my interactions with people with hearing loss, I have become familiar with, and educated about, the needs of the "hard of hearing," or HOH.

As you are considering these two bills, and any others related to hearing loss, I urge you to keep in mind that the great majority of people with hearing loss do not use ASL, but instead rely on speech, captioning, lipreading, listening devices and other tools to participate in society. SB 1018's current emphasis on services for the deaf, and ASL, and lack of attention to services for the HOH, is very disturbing to me.

I know that others have communicated with you about this, including David Viers, Mitch Turbin, and Andrea Cabral, and I will not repeat what they are telling you, Please listen to them, and ensure that any 2017 legislation related to the hard-of-hearing explicitly address the needs of your HOH constituents who are not users of ASL.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

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Remember that In the State of Oregon, nearly every corner, marked or not, is a legal crosswalk where drivers must yield the right of way to pedestrians.