

SENATE AMENDMENTS TO SENATE BILL 1018

By COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

April 13

- 1 On page 1 of the printed bill, delete lines 5 through 28 and delete page 2.
- 2 On page 3, delete lines 1 through 31 and insert:
- 3 **“SECTION 1. As used in sections 1 to 3 of this 2017 Act:**
- 4 **“(1) ‘Deaf’ means having severe loss or complete absence of auditory sensitivity, as fur-**
- 5 **ther defined by the Department of Human Services by rule in accordance with the input of**
- 6 **the Oregon Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing Committee established under section 2 of**
- 7 **this 2017 Act.**
- 8 **“(2) ‘Deaf-blind’ means having a combination of deafness and vision loss, as further de-**
- 9 **finied by the department by rule in accordance with the input of the committee.**
- 10 **“(3) ‘Hard of hearing’ means having reduced auditory sensitivity, as further defined by**
- 11 **the department by rule in accordance with the input of the committee.**
- 12 **“(4) ‘Sign language interpreter’ means a person who is readily able to communicate with**
- 13 **an individual who is deaf, deaf-blind or hard of hearing and who can accurately translate**
- 14 **statements by, proceedings involving and conversations with individuals who are deaf, deaf-**
- 15 **blind or hard of hearing.**
- 16 **“SECTION 2. (1) The Oregon Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing Committee is estab-**
- 17 **lished within the Department of Human Services.**
- 18 **“(2) The committee consists of 12 members appointed by the Director of Human Services.**
- 19 **“(3) The director shall appoint the members of the committee in accordance with rules**
- 20 **adopted by the department. In adopting rules under this section, the department shall ensure**
- 21 **that the following individuals are represented on the committee:**
- 22 **“(a) Individuals who are deaf;**
- 23 **“(b) Individuals who are deaf-blind;**
- 24 **“(c) Individuals who are hard of hearing;**
- 25 **“(d) Individuals who have experience with adaptive equipment for individuals who are**
- 26 **deaf, deaf-blind or hard of hearing;**
- 27 **“(e) Individuals who are qualified to provide psychological or other mental health ser-**
- 28 **vices, social services or rehabilitation services; and**
- 29 **“(f) Other individuals as deemed relevant by the department.**
- 30 **“(4) The committee shall advise the department on implementing and administering the**
- 31 **Oregon Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing Program established under section 3 of this**
- 32 **2017 Act.**
- 33 **“(5) A majority of the members of the committee constitutes a quorum for the trans-**
- 34 **action of business.**
- 35 **“(6) Official action by the committee requires the approval of a majority of the members**

1 of the committee.

2 “(7) The committee shall elect one of its members to serve as chairperson.

3 “(8) The term of office of each member of the committee is four years, but a member
4 serves at the pleasure of the director. Before the expiration of the term of a member, the
5 director shall appoint a successor whose term begins on January 1 of the following year. A
6 member is eligible for reappointment. If there is a vacancy for any cause, the director shall
7 make an appointment to become immediately effective for the unexpired term.

8 “(9) The committee shall meet at times and places specified by the call of the chairperson
9 or of a majority of the members of the committee.

10 “(10) The committee shall adopt rules necessary for the operation of the committee.

11 “(11) Members of the committee are not entitled to compensation, but may be reimbursed
12 for actual and necessary travel and other expenses incurred by them in the performance of
13 their official duties in the manner and amounts provided for in ORS 292.495. Claims for ex-
14 penses shall be paid out of funds appropriated to the department for purposes of the com-
15 mittee.

16 “(12) The department shall provide staff support and perform other services for the
17 committee as is necessary for the effective operation of the committee.

18 “**SECTION 3.** The Oregon Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing Program is established
19 in the Department of Human Services. The department shall implement and administer the
20 program. As part of the program, the department may:

21 “(1) Collect and retain facts, statistics and studies related to individuals who are deaf,
22 deaf-blind or hard of hearing.

23 “(2) Review and conduct studies related to the following:

24 “(a) The administration and operation of state agency programs intended to provide ser-
25 vices to individuals who are deaf, deaf-blind or hard of hearing;

26 “(b) The availability and accessibility of auxiliary aids in public places for individuals who
27 are deaf, deaf-blind or hard of hearing;

28 “(c) The development of technology that may be used to aid individuals who are deaf,
29 deaf-blind or hard of hearing;

30 “(d) The unemployment and underemployment of individuals who are deaf, deaf-blind or
31 hard of hearing; and

32 “(e) Any other matter related to individuals who are deaf, deaf-blind or hard of hearing
33 that the committee deems necessary to study.

34 “(3) Act as a bureau of information with respect to facts, statistics and studies collected
35 under subsection (1) of this section and studies conducted under subsection (2) of this section
36 for:

37 “(a) Individuals who are deaf, deaf-blind or hard of hearing;

38 “(b) State agencies that provide services to individuals who are deaf, deaf-blind or hard
39 of hearing;

40 “(c) Local government agencies that provide services to individuals who are deaf, deaf-
41 blind or hard of hearing; and

42 “(d) Other public and private agencies that provide services to individuals who are deaf,
43 deaf-blind or hard of hearing.

44 “(4) Submit a report, not later than September 15 of each even-numbered year, that
45 summarizes the facts, statistics and studies collected under subsection (1) of this section and

1 the studies conducted under subsection (2) of this section, to the Governor's office, which
2 may include recommendations for administrative action, and to the interim committees of
3 the Legislative Assembly related to human services, which may include recommendations for
4 legislation.

5 “(5) Coordinate a statewide sign language interpreter referral service that may be used
6 by governmental entities.

7 “(6) Assist state agencies in making state agency programs available and accessible to
8 individuals who are deaf, deaf-blind or hard of hearing.

9 “(7) Make the vocational rehabilitation services provided for under ORS 344.511 to 344.690
10 available and accessible to individuals who are deaf, deaf-blind or hard of hearing.

11 “(8) Advocate for individuals who are deaf, deaf-blind or hard of hearing in the following
12 areas:

13 “(a) Early intervention;

14 “(b) Health care;

15 “(c) Emergency services;

16 “(d) Education;

17 “(e) Vocational training;

18 “(f) Employment;

19 “(g) Public transportation and other public services; and

20 “(h) Communication technologies.

21 “(9) Develop a long-term plan for the provision of essential services to individuals who
22 are deaf, deaf-blind or hard of hearing that addresses, at a minimum:

23 “(a) The needs of particular locations and geographic areas;

24 “(b) The needs of personnel providing the services; and

25 “(c) Strategies for coordinating the provision of services.”.

26 Delete lines 40 through 45.

27 On page 4, delete lines 1 and 2 and insert:

28 “**SECTION 6.** ORS 185.230 is amended to read:

29 “185.230. (1) Any public agency may contract with the Department of Human Services for the
30 coordination and provision of sign language interpreter services.

31 “(2) From [*funds*] **moneys** available under subsection (1) of this section, the department shall
32 contract with certified sign language interpreters to provide, for a fee established by rule of the
33 department, sign language interpretation services to public agencies with whom the department has
34 a contract for such services.

35 “(3) **In entering into contracts with certified sign language interpreters under this sec-**
36 **tion, the department shall consult with the Oregon Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing**
37 **Committee established under section 2 of this 2017 Act.”.**

38 Delete lines 20 through 31 and insert:

39 “**SECTION 9.** Notwithstanding the term of office specified by section 2 of this 2017 Act,
40 of the members first appointed to the Oregon Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing Com-
41 mittee:

42 “(1) Three shall serve for terms ending January 1, 2019.

43 “(2) Three shall serve for terms ending January 1, 2020.

44 “(3) Three shall serve for terms ending January 1, 2021.

45 “(4) Three shall serve for terms ending January 1, 2022.”.

1 In line 32, delete "11" and insert "10".

2 In line 40, delete "12" and insert "11".

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