

Requested by Senator MONNES ANDERSON

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO
SENATE BILL 1018**

1 On page 1 of the printed bill, delete lines 5 through 28 and delete page
2 2.

3 On page 3, delete lines 1 through 31 and insert:

4 **“SECTION 1. As used in sections 1 to 3 of this 2017 Act:**

5 **“(1) ‘Deaf’ means having severe loss or complete absence of**
6 **auditory sensitivity, as further defined by the Department of Human**
7 **Services by rule in accordance with the input of the Oregon Deaf,**
8 **Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing Committee established under section**
9 **2 of this 2017 Act.**

10 **“(2) ‘Deaf-blind’ means having a combination of deafness and vision**
11 **loss, as further defined by the department by rule in accordance with**
12 **the input of the committee.**

13 **“(3) ‘Hard of hearing’ means having reduced auditory sensitivity,**
14 **as further defined by the department by rule in accordance with the**
15 **input of the committee.**

16 **“(4) ‘Sign language interpreter’ means a person who is readily able**
17 **to communicate with an individual who is deaf, deaf-blind or hard of**
18 **hearing and who can accurately translate statements by, proceedings**
19 **involving and conversations with individuals who are deaf, deaf-blind**
20 **or hard of hearing.**

21 **“SECTION 2. (1) The Oregon Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing**

1 **Committee is established within the Department of Human Services.**

2 **“(2) The committee consists of 12 members appointed by the Direc-**
3 **tor of Human Services.**

4 **“(3) The director shall appoint the members of the committee in**
5 **accordance with rules adopted by the department. In adopting rules**
6 **under this section, the department shall ensure that the following in-**
7 **dividuals are represented on the committee:**

8 **“(a) Individuals who are deaf;**

9 **“(b) Individuals who are deaf-blind;**

10 **“(c) Individuals who are hard of hearing;**

11 **“(d) Individuals who have experience with adaptive equipment for**
12 **individuals who are deaf, deaf-blind or hard of hearing;**

13 **“(e) Individuals who are qualified to provide psychological or other**
14 **mental health services, social services or rehabilitation services; and**

15 **“(f) Other individuals as deemed relevant by the department.**

16 **“(4) The committee shall advise the department on implementing**
17 **and administering the Oregon Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing**
18 **Program established under section 3 of this 2017 Act.**

19 **“(5) A majority of the members of the committee constitutes a**
20 **quorum for the transaction of business.**

21 **“(6) Official action by the committee requires the approval of a**
22 **majority of the members of the committee.**

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

25 **“(8) The term of office of each member of the committee is four**
26 **years, but a member serves at the pleasure of the director. Before the**
27 **expiration of the term of a member, the director shall appoint a suc-**
28 **cessor whose term begins on January 1 of the following year. A**
29 **member is eligible for reappointment. If there is a vacancy for any**
30 **cause, the director shall make an appointment to become immediately**

1 effective for the unexpired term.

2 “(9) The committee shall meet at times and places specified by the
3 call of the chairperson or of a majority of the members of the com-
4 mittee.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

30 “(d) The unemployment and underemployment of individuals who

1 are deaf, deaf-blind or hard of hearing; and

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

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

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

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

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

12 “(d) Other public and private agencies that provide services to in-
13 dividuals who are deaf, deaf-blind or hard of hearing.

14 “(4) Submit a report, not later than September 15 of each even-
15 numbered year, that summarizes the facts, statistics and studies col-
16 lected under subsection (1) of this section and the studies conducted
17 under subsection (2) of this section, to the Governor’s office, which
18 may include recommendations for administrative action, and to the
19 interim committees of the Legislative Assembly related to human
20 services, which may include recommendations for legislation.

21 “(5) Coordinate a statewide sign language interpreter referral ser-
22 vice that may be used by governmental entities.

23 “(6) Assist state agencies in making state agency programs avail-
24 able and accessible to individuals who are deaf, deaf-blind or hard of
25 hearing.

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

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

- 1 **“(a) Early intervention;**
2 **“(b) Health care;**
3 **“(c) Emergency services;**
4 **“(d) Education;**
5 **“(e) Vocational training;**
6 **“(f) Employment;**
7 **“(g) Public transportation and other public services; and**
8 **“(h) Communication technologies.**

9 **“(9) Develop a long-term plan for the provision of essential services**
10 **to individuals who are deaf, deaf-blind or hard of hearing that ad-**
11 **resses, at a minimum:**

- 12 **“(a) The needs of particular locations and geographic areas;**
13 **“(b) The needs of personnel providing the services; and**
14 **“(c) Strategies for coordinating the provision of services.”.**

15 Delete lines 40 through 45.

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

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

18 **“185.230. (1) Any public agency may contract with the Department of**
19 **Human Services for the coordination and provision of sign language inter-**
20 **preter services.**

21 **“(2) From [*funds*] moneys available under subsection (1) of this section,**
22 **the department shall contract with certified sign language interpreters to**
23 **provide, for a fee established by rule of the department, sign language in-**
24 **terpretation services to public agencies with whom the department has a**
25 **contract for such services.**

26 **“(3) In entering into contracts with certified sign language inter-**
27 **preters under this section, the department shall consult with the**
28 **Oregon Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing Committee established**
29 **under section 2 of this 2017 Act.”.**

30 On page 4, delete lines 20 through 31 and insert:

1 **“SECTION 9. Notwithstanding the term of office specified by sec-**
2 **tion 2 of this 2017 Act, of the members first appointed to the Oregon**
3 **Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing Committee:**

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

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

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

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

8 In line 32, delete “11” and insert “10”.

9 In line 40, delete “12” and insert “11”.

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