
2021 • HB 2498

**Registration option available
to Deaf and Hard of Hearing**

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Transparency

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Source: www.chadaludwig.com



Demographic

The CDC says the national study shows 1 in 4 American have hearing loss.

The study shows the number of 1,058,068 individuals are living with hearing loss in Oregon.

Approx. 4,021 individuals uses sign language to communicate in the state of Oregon.

Demographic (con't)

Oregon Department of Education report over 1,450 children with hearing loss are in K-12 school system.

Helen Keller National Center report over 300 DeafBlind Oregonians are listed in their national registry.

Oregon Early Hearing Detection & Intervention report an average of 100 babies are born in Oregon with hearing loss annually.

Community-based Needs Assessment

The purpose of this project was to identify for DHS and the Legislature the barriers that make it difficult for members of the Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing communities to successfully engage in social, educational, and health services and to make recommendations for closing any gaps.

Community-Based Needs Assessment of Oregon's
Deaf and Hard of Hearing Communities:
Final Report

Lead Investigator: Denise Thew Hackett, Ph.D, M.S.C.I.
Co-Investigator: Cheryl D. Davis, Ph.D.
Data Analyst: Sybille Guy, Ph.D.

12/30/2016

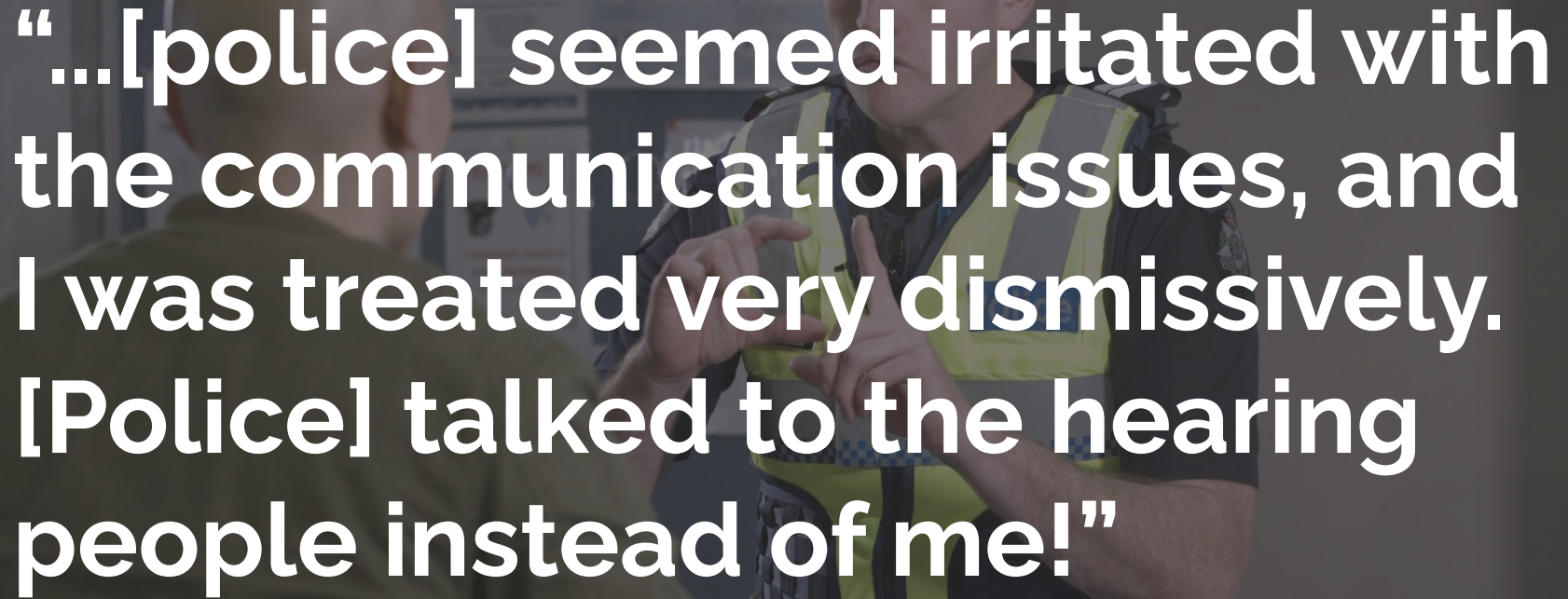
DHS Interagency Agreement #131333 (DHS-4131-16)
Willam Oregon University
Regional Resource Center on Deafness

A photograph showing a woman on the left and a Dallas police officer on the right, both using American Sign Language (ASL) to communicate. The woman has long dark hair and is wearing a black top. The officer is wearing a blue uniform with a 'DALLAS POLICE' patch on her shoulder. They are standing outdoors on a paved area. In the background, there is a sign for 'J. L. LONG' and some trees. The text 'Over half (51.7%) of Deaf and Hard of Hearing responses had difficulties communicating with police.' is overlaid in large white font across the center of the image.

Over half (51.7%) of Deaf and Hard of Hearing responses had difficulties communicating with police.

A photograph showing a police officer on the left, wearing a high-visibility vest and a cap, facing a man on the right. The man is wearing a white long-sleeved shirt and is gesturing with his hands as if speaking. The background is slightly blurred, showing a brick building and some greenery.

“...communication barrier came when the police showed up...I informed [police] I was Deaf, but the police kept commanding me...”

A police officer in a high-visibility vest is talking to a man in a green shirt. The officer is gesturing with his hands while speaking. The background shows a control room or office with various monitors and equipment.

“...[police] seemed irritated with the communication issues, and I was treated very dismissively. [Police] talked to the hearing people instead of me!”

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HB 2498 will allow deaf and hard of hearing persons to **indicate voluntarily** their hearing status in the Oregon vehicle registration system, allowing law enforcement officers to **see the status** during any situation.



This new Law

- Will build trust and cooperation between more than 1M Oregonians with hearing loss and our law enforcement.
- It will foster a better understanding of communication needs while protecting and facilitating a strong relationship with law enforcement officers.



Over the past 3 years of training for law enforcement at DPSST and created the communication card in 2018.
This is not enough.

Additional resources: <http://www.bridgesoregon.org/resources/>



**I AM DEAF
OR HARD OF
HEARING**

See the back of this card for the best ways to communicate with me. Police Officers: please contact your supervisor for further information on providing me with the necessary accommodations.

I rely on visual cues. Please use different communication tactics with me.

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HB 2498 is the **first step** in addressing the **overdue needs** of Oregonians who are Deaf, DeafBlind, or Hard of Hearing.

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We need the...

**PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN
POLICE AND DEAF COMMUNITIES**

Please vote “aye”
with do pass
recommendation.

Thank you!
