



Testimony in Support of Senate Bill 1562
Senate Committee on Labor and Business

Speaker of the House Dan Rayfield
February 8, 2022

Chair Taylor, members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Senate Bill 1562.

My name is Dan Rayfield, State Representative for House District 16, representing Corvallis, Philomath, and Oregon State University.

The intent of this legislation is to increase the access and transparency to American Sign Language (ASL) interpretation here in Oregon. We need a uniform set of rules for delivering interpretation services, particularly in important settings like our schools, hospitals, and in the judicial system.

This legislation will protect Oregonians who need interpretation services from dealing with an underqualified or underprepared interpreter, while also helping qualified interpreters to experience more consistent and standardized employment opportunities. I have a family connection to the ASL world through my wife, Amanda, who has been an ASL interpreter, and can attest to the importance of having access to qualified interpreters.

I am fully supportive of SB 1562 and would like to thank Senators Anderson and Hansell for their work in getting this policy to the finish line, as well as of course the advocates, Mish, Chad, Jolleen, and many others who made this work possible.