



Re: HB 2538, Reimbursement for Health Care Interpretation Services

Chair Nosse, Vice-Chairs Goodwin and Nelson, and members of the Committee:

Please join us in our support of HB2538.

Interpretation Services for the delivery of health care are mandated by statute when necessary to provide care to non-English speaking people. This mandate improves access and health equity for minority populations to receive quality health care and is an invaluable service for these populations, and is a necessary component for culturally competent care for Oregonians. However, the resources required for interpretation services are intensive, both in cost and time. Interpretation services from a qualified provider are critical for patient care and reimbursement from insurance companies mitigates this cost to the provider.

HB2538 would help improve patient care, promote health equity, and support small businesses by ensuring the cost of the services incurred by the provider would be reimbursed in compliance with ORS 413.559.

Please support HB2538.

Sincerely,

Sara Love, ND
Chair, OANP Legislative Steering Committee