

Adam Logan, Secretary  
Oregon Association of the Deaf  
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971-331-1613

Feb 6, 2023

Committee Chair Neron  
900 Court St NE, H-281,  
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Chair Neron, Vice chair Hudson, Vice chair Wright, and committee members,

The Deaf, DeafBlind, and Hard of Hearing's Bill of Rights is a document that ensures school districts meet the needs of Deaf, DeafBlind, and Hard of Hearing students in their preferred languages. These students have the same ability to learn language as any other child and deserve equal opportunities to do so. The Bill of Rights does not provide greater rights than those already given by federal law such as the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

For Deaf, DeafBlind, and Hard of Hearing children to develop properly, they need to be surrounded by language peers and deaf role models. They have the right to access qualified professionals who can help them acquire language skills. They are entitled to learn both English and American Sign Language, and should be regularly assessed by language acquisition professionals. These rights are important for their overall development and success.

The Oregon Association of the Deaf voted unanimously to support this legislation and we urge you to see this bill through the legislature process to become law. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

*Adam Logan*  
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