

Submitter: Stephine Wiskirchen
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care
Measure: SB584

Dear Senator Patterson and Senator Hayden;

It's with the utmost respect for the decision that lies in front of you- please I beg of you to oppose Bill 584.

The few that feel they have the authority and believe that they can take ownership over things regarding Language access for Oregon, makes my stomach turn to say the least- This is not something that one entity can accomplish. Taking away other options of patient care violates so many standards of care regarding healthcare- but it also is a bullying tactic within itself. It is also in terms of legal, a mess for further lawsuits regarding the integrity of such a blatant attempt used to manipulate emotions from those without a voice- or so they may believe. I'm here to be a voice that speaks out to say "Due to the current demand, there is a great need for more than one entity for language services. There aren't enough interpreters for a sole entity to cover the entire state of Oregon's high demand for language access needs."

There are also further legalities associated with this said Bill that I don't think they are considering- such as loss of privacy----Do you truly believe that ALL LEP's or Deaf patients want their communities knowing their medical needs? Do you truly truly believe that ALL LEP's or Deaf patients who live in rural areas have access, transportations, to local interpreters? Do you have any idea the number of REMOTE Interpreters who are essential in allowing immediate communications most of which are unplanned? IF you cannot provide solid answers right now to these questions- I encourage you to take a step away from putting this BILL In action and I strongly oppose this from happening.

In Oregon alone there are millions of people being helped right now through remote sessions- 24/7 and on a very important note, please remember that Diversity and Inclusion are on the minds of every government organization, every corporate entity in today's age with so much exclusion happening and so many using their voice finally in the right way and I encourage you deeply to not take a stand against that diversity, privacy, and stand firm on a bill that affirms segregation of one entity inside Language services.

By doing so you will give way to a monopoly that will create many legal issues inside it as well as the decline of efficient patient care.

Sincerely & respectfully,

Stephine Wiskirchen