

My name is Aimee Holmes, and I am writing to ask for you to look at our health care benefits in regards to our children that require hearing devices. Oregon law House Bill 4104 requires insurance companies to cover cochlear implants, hearing aids and hearing assistive technology systems, ear molds as well as treatment and visits. Currently my health insurance covers the very bare minimum of these costs.

My daughter Avery is 7 years old, and she was diagnosed with progressive hearing loss at 4 years of age. We recently had to upgrade her hearing aids, because the current pair was no longer strong enough for her level of loss. She was having a difficult time communicating and missing out on important information. Our total cost was \$5,837.42, while the PHP only covered \$907.02.

This is an extreme cost burden placed upon my family. We have to go into debt to give my daughter access to language and to participate in school amongst her hearing peers. Please consider amending our current health care coverage to support families and their children with hearing loss.

Thank you,

Aimee Holmes