

Submitter: Robin Baker

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

Measure: HB2994

I am writing in support of the HB2994 that will require insurance coverage for the costs of hearing devices and other related services. Access to hearing devices and support is important for any person who is deaf and hard of hearing, but crucially so for children who are still learning and developing language. I know this firsthand, since I am hard of hearing and have worn hearing aids or cochlear implants since I was 8 months old.

All of these services and equipment are not cheap, which bars many families from being able to use them. Thankfully my family and I have had the financial resources and privilege for me to have hearing devices and audiological support throughout my life. I hope that all families can have the same opportunities and resources as I did, and this bill will help with that goal.

Communication and connection with others is such a crucial part of our wellbeing. For those of us who use hearing devices to support listening and spoken language as their mode of communication, this connection is limited without the right medical equipment. I encourage you to support HB2994 to ensure that all families can get the services their children need.

Thank you for your time and support,  
Robin Baker