

Chair Patterson, Vice Chair Hayden and members of the committee,

I believe everyone understands the value of interpreters in the medical setting who can bridge critical communication as a cultural ambassador as well as interpreter.

I am a Qualified Interpreter in the Medical Field. It costs lots of money and time to obtain and maintain my certification. The language that I represent (Indonesian and Malay) is not in great demand. The hourly pay (which does not include travel time and insurance) is about what I can get working at McDonalds with a better amount of hours and insurance.

I think you can understand how and why the goal of serving patients with limited English which Dr. Kitzhaber dreams of is illusive.

**I appreciate your thoughtful consideration and urge you to vote "YES" on SB 584**

Best,  
Surja Tjahaja