

Submitter: Joanna Wilson  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means  
Measure: SB5506

Members of Ways and Means Committee,

My name is Joanna Wilson I am an Oregon Disability Commissioner.

I am speaking on behalf of bills HB 2264, HB 2696 ASL interpreters, and SB 5026.

I been Deaf since birth. As a child growing up the services were horrible and very poor. I know this from experiences. The services are not any better now.

Children today and their parents all need to be on the same page when it comes to their education. I know from experiences that having an interpreter present when discussing my or any child education is extremely important. Same with Deaf parents of Deaf child and Hearing parents of Deaf child.

I feel it is important for sign language interpreters to have licensure. I say this why? Because anyone can say they qualified and certified to interpret when they not even trained . When an interpreter can not read the Deaf person sign language can be misinterpreted . I feel that can put us in a dangerous situation.

Please add 500,000 annually to fund ODHS services for Deaf ,hard of hearing and Deaf blind people. Without this it will hurt all of us. We need this in all areas of Department work.

Thank you very much