

Submitter: Megan Larson

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

Measure: HB2994

To whom it concerns,

I am the pediatric audiologist at Salem Audiology Clinic. I see children of all ages in our clinic. I personally have fit a young girl with her first hearing aid at the age of 8 because of mom fighting for years with the insurance companies to get the hearing aid covered. She has a specialized hearing aid set up called a Cros system. She has hearing in one year and is deaf in the other ear. This type of hearing aid is especially hard to get insurance companies to cover because of how some insurances have it written that they will only cover a hearing aid based on the degree of loss in the better ear. This girl has now had to do speech therapy and is behind academically because she got her hearing aid so late. Please fix this bill and make hearing aids easier to access for patients.