

**SB449**  
**Amendment Request**  
**Version 3- January 19, 2015**

*Amendments submitted by the Department of Human Services at the request of Senator Monnes-Anderson. Amendments do not imply Governor's support of SB449.*

**Throughout-** In all instances where "Deaf-Blind" exists, please replace with "DeafBlind"

**Page 2- line 10.** After "office.", add "The program manager may contract with entities to perform functions including, but not limited to, advocacy, peer support counseling and case management."

**Page 2-** Delete lines 11-31

**Page 2 and 3-** Replace lines 42-45 (p2) and 1-14 (p3) with the following:

- (A) Six individuals who are Deaf, DeafBlind or Hard of Hearing.
- (B) Three individuals who specialize in providing adaptive or communication services for the Deaf, DeafBlind or Hard of Hearing population.
- (C) Three individuals who are certified or licensed to practice in clinical psychology, mental health or rehabilitation counseling services."

**Page 3-** Delete lines 15-16 and add "The Office shall provide support to the Advisory Committee."

**Page 3-** Delete language in lines 17-18 and replace with "The Office for Deaf, DeafBlind and Hard of Hearing Services may consult with members of the Advisory Committee on the recruitment and retention of personnel who understand the needs and concerns of the Deaf, DeafBlind and Hard of Hearing communities."

**Page 3- line 23-24.** Replace language with: "Conducting a statewide and community needs assessment for all geographic regions of this state on a

frequency of at least every five years, but no more frequently than every two years. The results of the community needs assessment shall be formally documented with metrics to assess changes over time.”

**Page 3, lines 25-28-** Replace language with the following:

“(b) Consulting with applicable offices within the Department of Human Services to promote compliance with requirements under the Americans with Disabilities Act and section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 to make reasonable accommodations and modifications:”

“(c) Establish a system for the tracking of state agency compliance of with the requirements under the Americans with Disabilities Act and section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 to make reasonable accommodations and modifications in order to enable:”

**Page 3- Between lines 33-34,** insert new “(C) In order to effectively fulfill its responsibilities under this section, the Department shall employ at least one individual who is proficient in American Sign Language.”

**Page 4, delete lines 12-16** and replace with “The statewide and community needs assessment described in subsection (1)(a) of this section may be conducted by employees of the office as well as by contracted entities who have experience in understanding issues surrounding the Deaf, DeafBlind and Hard of Hearing communities. The Office is encouraged to consult with Deaf, DeafBlind and Hard of Hearing residents in different regions of Oregon to assess and understand differing regional needs that may exist in Oregon.”

**Page 4- line 23.** After “Assembly.” add “The Office may also offer recommendations for the most efficient and effective manner for coordinating and administering services to the Deaf, DeafBlind and Hard of Hearing communities by state agencies.”

***Additional Requests for Legislative Counsel:***

We have not provided language, but the amendments need to make it explicit that the Office has the responsibility for coordinating interpreting services for state agencies.

It also needs to say that the Office (or the Department) has the authority to establish the rates paid to interpreters. If you think rules are necessary to accomplish this, that will be fine. However, state agencies will still have the ability to execute their own contracts with interpreters. It will not be a mandated, exclusive contract.

There is also a request to make it explicit that the Office may promulgate rules to carry out the responsibilities contained in the bill. Please include "The Office of the Deaf, DeafBlind, and Hard of Hearing Services may promulgate rules to carry out the provisions of ORS 410.740. "