

To whom it may concern,

Better Hearing Australia has been advocating for the deaf and hard-of-hearing since 1945. Writing on behalf of our members as well as the hundreds of thousands of other hard-of-hearing Western Australians, let me say in the strongest terms, this is discrimination directed at a group which historically has struggled to communicate their needs via lack of opportunity. Many in the Deaf community tell me they prefer captioning to Auslan interpreters and would relish more television with captions.

As Helen Keller wrote, "...being deaf cuts us off from people". The Deaf, in many cases, are unable to advocate for themselves. Please be the voice of reason and ensure they are fully included in our society.

Sincerely,

Barbara Alcock

Chair

Better Hearing Australia W.A.