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I'd like to submit to the Senate enquiry on how COVID19 has effected me, a profoundly deaf professional.

The reliance on audio communication, and not being able to meet face to face - I'm unable to understand what is being said, unable to lipread, unable to participate in online meetings, training and similar. Businesses are asking you to call them. Email is not acceptable.

The lack of captions on public service material is frustrating plus dangerous. I cannot understand how businesses can charge for webinars, podcasts and have not transcribed or caption their material which you don't find out until you've paid....

Unable to participate in continued professional development as it's audio based yet my requests for assistance is dismissed.

Wearing of masks by public officials, I cannot lipread or understand, yet expected to obey their directions. That's terrifying, I could be arrested for civil disobedience.

Media is promoting that it's been a boon for the disabled, excluded those who are D/HoH.

Lynda Leigh