



ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

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March 18, 2019

Senator Floyd Prozanski
Senate Committee on Judiciary
Oregon State Capitol
sjud.exhibits@oregonlegislature.gov

RE: Support for Senate Bill 858

Dear Chair Prozanski and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary:

On behalf of the Oregon Chapter of the National Association of County Administrators, I would like to express our vigorous support of the provisions of Senate Bill (SB) 858 which would allow all counties the option to sign intergovernmental agreements with the Judicial Department to provide law library services.

Currently, Oregon Revised Statute (ORS) 9.820 authorizes only Multnomah County, as a county containing more than 700,000 inhabitants, to contract with the Judicial Department to provide law library services. All other counties in the State are either required to provide law library services directly or are only permitted to contract with a law library association or other organization to provide law library services. By permitting all counties to contract with the Judicial Department, the counties will maintain control of the funding and citizens will benefit from more effective and robust law library services. This is especially true for small, rural counties with limited ability to provide these services.

In many counties, funds furnished to counties by the State for the operation of law libraries are becoming insufficient to continue to maintain current service levels. Contracting with the Judicial Department adds a level of expertise that is affordable and will provide a sustainable level of service. We would expect many counties to see a cost savings that would allow them to add to their law library services rather than cut back.

In no way does this bill limit a county's ability to continue to provide law library services as they have traditionally. What it does provide is another tool in the tool belt to find the best fitting alternative that will work for each individual county.

We urge you to join us in our support for this common-sense legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tyler Stone". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Tyler Stone, Chair
Oregon Chapter of NACA