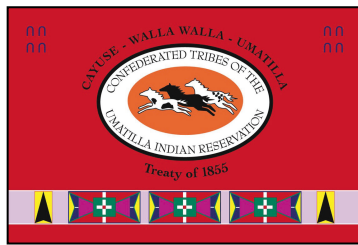


**Confederated Tribes *of the*  
Umatilla Indian Reservation**

Board of Trustees



46411 Timine Way  
Pendleton, OR 97801

---

**Testimony of the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation  
House Committee on Behavioral Health and Health Care  
HB 2286  
January 23, 2023**

Good afternoon Chair Nosse and members of the Committee,

This letter is written on behalf of Yellowhawk Tribal Health Center (Yellowhawk), the healthcare facility owned and operated by the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR). We are writing to relay our strong support of HB 2286. Yellowhawk welcomes and appreciates this opportunity to provide the strong support of CTUIR for this bill.

The Federal Government committed to the provision of health care to our Tribal members in our Treaty of 1855. We entered a Self-Governance Compact with the Indian Health Service in order to provide health care services to eligible members of our Tribal community at our Yellowhawk. However, many Yellowhawk patients receive health care services from medical providers and facilities outside of Yellowhawk. These services are provided and paid for under the Medicaid Program.

We have been receiving the benefits of Oregon Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) for several years. FMAP payments contribute needed funding to support Yellowhawk medical services, but only cover hospital services, not those provided by non-tribal medical practitioners. FMAP payments have been an integral part of our ability to provide essential services to our patients such as follow-up care after they have been in the hospital or seen by outside providers and specialists.

HB 2286 requires the Oregon Health Authority to identify all claims eligible for FMAP and to return a portion of the Federal match to Tribal medical facilities like Yellowhawk.

With its passage, CTUIR will be able to maintain our Treaty-protected right to provision of health care and expand the Yellowhawk patient services needed to promote the wellbeing of our Tribal community. We strongly support this legislation and look forward to working with the Oregon Health Authority to implement it when passed.

Thank you for your time in reviewing this letter.