

February 13, 2023

Thank you Chair Grayber and members of the House Emergency Management, General Government and Veterans Committee for hearing House Bill 3173. I submit this statement in support of Chairman Dumont Jr. of the Klamath Tribes.

The Klamath Tribes are grateful to Representative Sanchez and the several co-sponsors of this bill. Improving and institutionalizing proper consultation practices by state agencies with the sovereign tribal governments of Oregon is essential. Too often otherwise accomplished and well-intentioned agency representatives lack sufficient understanding of what constitutes meaningful consultation with sovereign tribal nations. Their edification is both key to their success and to our productive relationships with the State of Oregon.

Our only substantive comment at this time is to consider an explicit requirement that the tribal representatives populating the proposed Task Force must be officially appointed from tribal members selected by elected tribal governments.

Sincerely,

Chairman Clayton Dumont Jr.

The Klamath Tribes

