

February 14, 2023

To: Chair Fahey, Vice Chair Breese-Iverson, Vice Chair Kropf and Members of the House Committee on Rules

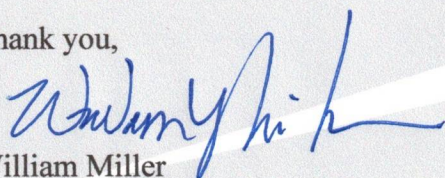
Re: House Bill 2107 – Support

Chair Fahey, Vice Chair Breese-Iverson, Vice Chair Kropf. For the record, my name is William Miller (Blackfeet/Cherokee) and I have the honor of serving as the Executive Director of the NAYA Action Fund. Founded by the community, for the community, the NAYA Action Fund is a 501(c)(4) social welfare organization with a mission to expand political advocacy and build electoral power in partnership with the Native community. The NAYA Action Fund provides tools to shape public policy, cultivate leadership, and works to elect champions who uplift and support Native people. Our vision of systemic change is youth centered, family driven, and elder guided. I write today in support House Bill 2107, Automatic Voter Registration Expansion in Oregon.

The NAYA Action Fund works to strengthen our political efforts at the local, statewide, and federal levels. A portion of our work is supporting the American Indian/Alaska Native community in registering to vote and providing voter education opportunities. Our state has come a long way with Automatic Voter Registration (AVR). However, we can do more to continue providing access and opportunity to the ballot. HB 2107 would further allow Oregon to become a leader in election modernization, security, and voter registration. However, other states, notably Colorado and Nevada, are surpassing Oregon as they already authorized AVR expansion to Medicaid. By expanding these opportunities, Oregon will move in a direction that allows us to have more equitable access the ballot while equally allowing us to keep our electoral processes safe and secure.

Voting is the backbone of our democracy, and Oregon has an obligation to protect and enhance opportunities to access the ballot. With the passage of HB 2107, we can ensure more folks are registered to vote. Therefore, the NAYA Action Fund is supportive of HB 2107, and we ask for your support as well.

Thank you,



William Miller
Executive Director