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**Testimony of the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation**  
**House Committee on Judiciary**  
**HB 2128**  
**February 14, 2023**

Chair Kropf and members of the Committee,

My name is Kathryn Brigham and I am the Chair of the Board of Trustees, the governing body of the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR). I welcome and appreciate this opportunity to provide the strong support of my Tribe for HB 2128.

Like the State of Oregon, the CTUIR views cigarette smoking as a serious public health concern. Our Yellowhawk Tribal Health Clinic provides tobacco prevention services to our Tribal community. Funding for these services is provided to Yellowhawk by the Oregon Health Authority. As the Committee may be aware, Indian tribes did not participate in the litigation filed against tobacco product manufacturers in the 1990s and were not parties to the 1998 Master Settlement Agreement that provided settlement funds to the states. As a result, the CTUIR and other tribes had to seek tobacco settlement funds from their respective states.

The CTUIR supports HB 2128 to insure that tobacco product manufacturers that did not sign on to or contribute settlement funds under the Master Settlement Agreement pay their fair share for the health care impacts their tobacco products have caused. Accordingly, we support the “equity assessment” that would be imposed on such tobacco product manufacturers under HB 2128.

Finally, in the event the Committee decides to move forward on this bill with direct allocation to local governments, we request that Oregon’s Federally recognized Tribes be expressly included in the governments that are to receive such funds.

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 today.