

TAWNA SANCHEZ
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
DISTRICT 43
NORTH AND NORTHEAST PORTLAND



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

April 26, 2023

Chair Manning, Vice-Chair Thatcher, and members of the Senate Committee on Veterans, Emergency Management, Federal and World Affairs,

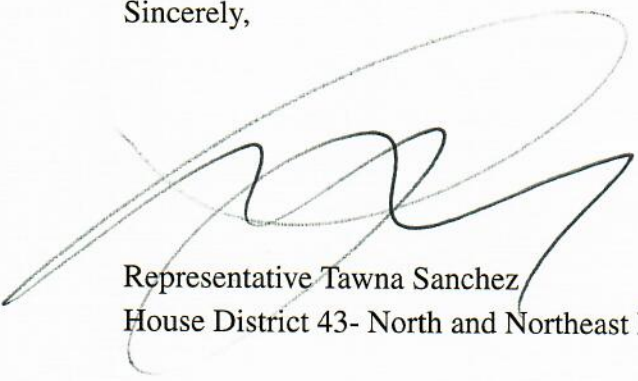
My name is Tawna Sanchez and I am the State Representative for House District 43, North and Northeast Portland. I am writing in support of House Bill 2737, which would allow state agencies to donate, sell, or lease property or property interests to Oregon's Nine Federally Recognized Tribes. HB 2737 also permits the transfer of mineral and geothermal resource rights contained within a property to a Tribe.

This bill makes a simple statutory change that begins the process of allowing the transfer of state lands and structures to the Tribes that are entitled to these lands under state and federal law. Several state agencies currently own properties or property interests located on Tribal lands, such as Fort Yamhill, a former U.S. military outpost owned by the Parks and Recreation Department.

HB 2737 does not mandate the transfer of state agency property to Tribes. It simply gives agencies the flexibility to work with Tribes to return property on Tribal lands. This bill will facilitate collaboration between state agencies and the Tribes, strengthening these relationships and better respecting Tribal sovereignty.

I urge you to support HB 2737 and pass it out of committee with a "Do Pass" recommendation.

Sincerely,



Representative Tawna Sanchez
House District 43- North and Northeast Portland