



February 19, 2025

**Oregon State Legislature
House Committee on Rules
Testimony in Support of House Bill 2069
Provided by the Governor's Task Force on Tribal Consultation**

Dear Chair Bowman, Vice-Chairs Drazan and Pham, and Members of the Committee:

As the Chair of the Governor's Task Force on Tribal Consultation and on behalf of the current members, please support House Bill 2069 with the -2 Amendment so that the critical work we have started, to clarify the state's responsibilities in tribal consultation, can continue seamlessly and without disruption.

Representative Sanchez led the introduction and championing of House Bill 3173 in 2023, which created the task force because consultation is the foundation for a strong government-to-government relationship between the State of Oregon and the nine federally recognized tribes, each of which is a sovereign government.

The membership comprises representatives from each federally recognized Tribe, the state legislature, the Legislative Commission on Indian Services, and executive branch agencies. We began meeting to identify the key barriers to meaningful consultation. This topic has many layers, from each government's organizational structure to the various issues we all face in our respective roles to serve our people. As all state agencies are not the same, neither are the nine Tribes.

We have made significant progress in a short period, but we need more time and resources to complete the work. Our recommendations to the Governor and Legislature to establish effective tribal consultation policies must honor the unique cultural differences among the Tribes within the context of the laws and rules that govern state agencies. These two issues can conflict when trying to foster collaboration between equitable governments with very different histories and policies guiding how they deliver services to the people each serves.

However, all task force members are committed to this work on a volunteer basis. We want to ensure that we have the time to develop recommendations that reflect the values of Oregon and our Tribes. Our recommendations must be clear but flexible, with accountability on all sides, because effective consultation not only benefits tribal communities but contributes to a more just and equitable society.

Thank you for hearing our voices when deliberating this legislation.

We hope you will support it with the urgency it deserves to benefit all of Oregon.

Sincerely,

Corinne Sams

Chairman, Governor's Task Force on Tribal Consultation

Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation

Governor's Taskforce on Tribal Consultation Membership

2024-2025

The task force consists of 15 members, including representatives from each of Oregon's nine federally recognized tribes, three state lawmakers, a member of the Governor's Office, and two members representing state agencies. The current members are:

1. **Tracy Kennedy:** Chairperson, Burns Paiute Tribe
2. **Natalie Ball:** Tribal Council Representative, Klamath Tribes
3. **Corinne Sams:** Board of Trustees Member, Confederated Tribes of Umatilla
4. **Bobby Brunoe:** Secretary-Treasurer, Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs
5. **Anna Richter-Taylor:** Representative, Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians
6. **Brenda Meade:** Chairperson, Coquille Indian Tribe
7. **Dee Pigsley:** Chairperson, Confederated Tribes of the Siletz Indians
8. **Doug Barrett:** Chief and Tribal Council Representative, Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw Indians
9. **Jon George:** Tribal Council Representative, Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde
10. **Julie Johnson:** Tribal Affairs Director, Oregon Health Authority
11. **Rosetta "Rosie" Shatkin:** Legislative and Government Affairs Director, Tribal-State Government-to-Government Liaison, Oregon Liquor Cannabis Commission
12. **Tawna Sanchez:** State Representative
13. **Open Seat:** State Senator
14. **Patrick Flanagan:** Executive Director, Legislative Commission on Indian Services
15. **Shana McConville Radford:** Tribal Affairs Director, Office of Governor Tina Kotek

