

COALITION OF OREGON SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS

Date:February 26, 2025To:House Education CommitteeFrom:Parasa Chanramy, COSASubject:Testimony in Support of House Bill 3218

Good Afternoon, Chair Neron, Vice Chairs Dobson and McIntire, and Members of the House Education Committee:

On behalf of the Coalition of Oregon School Administrators, we share this letter expressing our support for the <u>Tribal Attendance Promising Practices (TAPP) Program</u> and House Bill 3218.

In the 2023-25 biennium, the Department of Education received \$1.7 million for Tribal Attendance Grants. Funds were distributed to ten school districts through the TAPP initiative to address the root causes of chronic absenteeism for American Indian/Alaska Native students (LPRO Memo, October 2024).



TAPP SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND TRIBAL PARTNERS



COALITION OF OREGON SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS

The intent of the TAPP program is to strengthen the partnership between Oregon Tribes and the schools that serve any student identifying as American Indian / Alaska Native, even if the student is not a member of a federally recognized tribe. Since TAPP efforts are school-wide, all students attending a TAPP school get to benefit from the work of TAPP, and TAPP Family Advocates.

Willamina School District Spotlight. <u>Here's a video featuring stories from students, tribal</u> <u>leaders, and educators</u> describing the importance of Tribal History / Shared History and the impact the TAPP program has had on students and their local community.

TAPP is an impactful program, and COSA supports efforts to expand the reach of the program.

HB 3218 would require a study that is two-fold:

- 1. To study opportunities to expand the TAPP program, including increases in funding to enable the program to serve more students at existing program locations; and
- 2. To identify ways to increase funding to facilitate the establishment of additional TAPP program locations throughout this state.

We urge you to vote YES on House Bill 3218.