



To: Senate Rural Communities and Economic Development Committee
From: Justin Martin, Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde and the Oregon Tribal Gaming Alliance
Date: February 19, 2013
Subject: Senate Bill 18

Chair Roblan, Vice-Chair Baertschiger, Vice-Chair Burdick and members of the Senate Rural Communities and Economic Development Committee, my name is Justin Martin and I am testifying today on behalf of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, where I am also a tribal member. I am also proud to be the Association Manager for The Oregon Tribal Gaming Alliance. I am here today in support of Senate Bill 18.

Tribes in Oregon operated nine casinos in 2011. They are located on tribally owned lands in predominantly rural and semi-rural areas. The average city or town in Oregon with a tribal casino has 5,871 residents. Seven casinos have hotels that collectively have 1,545 rooms. As such, tribes are major drivers of the rural Oregon economy through their employment and spending, and in their ability to stimulate tourism.

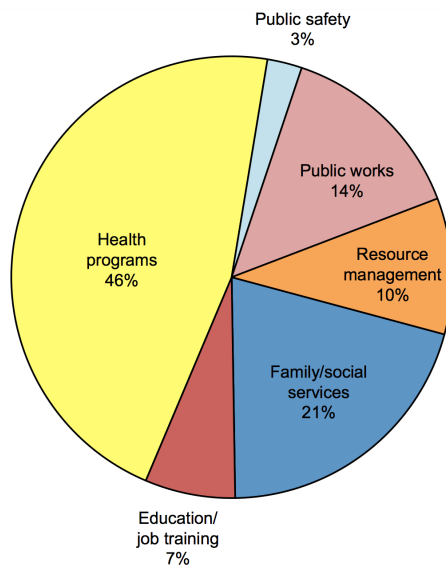
Below are some key facts from *The Contributions of Indian Gaming to Oregon's Economy in 2011 and 2010: A Market and Economic Impact Analysis for the Oregon Tribal Gaming Alliance*, prepared by ECONorthwest.

- In 2011 the direct economic contributions of tribal gaming were \$561.2 million in casino output, of which 79.8 percent came from gaming, and \$142.1 million in tribal government activities. These impacts stimulated additional employment and economic output as their effects filtered through the state economy.
- In 2011, tribal casinos employed an average of 5,056 people with a total payroll cost of nearly \$212 million. By comparison the Oregon Lottery employed 446 people with less than \$36 million in payroll.
- Casinos and the tribal governments supported by gaming collectively had an economic impact totaling \$1.5 billion in output, 13,153 jobs, and \$506.9 million in wages and benefits in Oregon.
- As a result of those economic impacts, local, state, and federal governments collected a total of \$141.0 million in taxes and other revenues.

- Tribes spent over \$55 million on new casino facility construction, which was over 25 percent of all the spending in Oregon on hotels, recreational, leisure, and amusement buildings.

As you can see Oregon’s nine federally recognized tribes contribute a great deal to the Oregon Economy, especially in rural areas. These contributions coupled with expenditures on governmental programs including health care, public safety, education, and social services provided by tribes lessens the burden on federal, state, and local programs. This is why we feel it is appropriate and necessary for Oregon’s citizens to get the full picture from the Financial Estimate Committee by including impacts upon tribes in their estimates.

For reference the following graph shows the allocation of tribal gaming revenues to tribal government programs in 2011.



From the work of Governor Vic Atiyeh, various Legislative Assemblies and the current Kitzhaber administration, Native American tribes and the State of Oregon have worked hard to create a positive government-to-government relationship. Passage of SB 18 continues the goodwill and future vision found here in Oregon between tribes and the State.

PLEASE SUPPORT SENATE BILL 18