



**CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF
COOS, LOWER UMPQUA AND SIUSLAW INDIANS
TRIBAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES**

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February 19, 2013

Senator Arnie Roblan, Chair
Committee on Rural Communities
and Economic Development
900 Court Street NE, S-417
Salem OR 97301

Dear Chairman Roblan:

The Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw Indians support the following measures. Each of these is scheduled for hearing on Tuesday, February 19, 2013.

SB 3: Adds Legislative members to Legislative Commission on Indian Services. The LCIS has been a forum through which the government-to-government relationship between tribes and the State of Oregon has been nurtured and advanced. Adding additional legislators to the LCIS will enrich that process and deepen the mutual understanding between tribal policy makers and the Legislature.

SB 18: Financial Estimate Committee - Tribal impacts. Many state measures have no imaginable impact on tribes. Some may have a pronounced fiscal impact. Given the importance of tribes to the State's economy generally, and to rural areas particularly, it is appropriate that financial estimate committees be expressly empowered to consider the effects, or potential effects, on tribes.

We note, however, that the obligations of the government-to-government relationship would attach particularly strongly to a circumstance in which a financial estimate committee were estimating the fiscal impact of a statewide measure on a tribe or on tribes generally. We expect to be consulted during the process of preparing such an estimate.

SB 351: Local Government Investment Pool - Tribes. A large pool may be more efficient than if the same funds were separately invested and separately managed by individual governments. By minimizing investment transaction costs and maximizing the leverage of a large fund, more money may be made available for public benefits. Tribal governments fund for tribal and non-tribal residents many of the health care, public safety, public housing, and other public services also provided by political subdivisions whose resources the Treasurer already has authority to invest. For the same reasons as it makes sense to stretch a city or county's resources by

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increasing the efficiency and leverage of their invested funds, so, too, does it makes sense for the Treasurer to be able to pool with other governments some of a willing tribe's resources.

Thank you very much for hearing these measures. We appreciate the opportunity to have been heard. We urge the Committee to pass each of the bills to the floor with a do-pass recommendation.

Sincerely,



Robert Garcia, Tribal Chairman
Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua,
and Siuslaw Indians

cc: Committee Members, Rural Communities and Economic Development

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