



CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON
SEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
GILLIAM, HOOD RIVER, SHERMAN, WASCO, AND WHEELER COUNTIES
309 STATE STREET
HOOD RIVER, OR 97031
541-386-3535

John A. Olson
Presiding Judge

Karen Ostrye
Circuit Judge

Janet L. Stauffer
Circuit Judge

John A. Wolf
Circuit Judge

Sherry L. Smith
Trial Court Administrator

February 11, 2015

Mr. Adam Adkin
Attorney at Law
1201 NW Wall Street
Suite 200
Bend, OR 97701

Re. **Senate Bill 448**

Dear Mr. Adkin:

You recently contacted me regarding Senate Bill 448, which would amend ORS 419C.058. The statute currently allows the circuit courts of the 22nd Judicial District to enter into a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, providing for the transfer of juvenile delinquency cases from the juvenile court of the judicial district to tribal court. Cases subject to transfer are limited to youth who are enrolled tribal members and are living on the Warm Springs Reservation. Senate Bill 448 would amend the statute to permit the Seventh Judicial District to enter into similar MOUs with the Confederated Tribes, providing for the transfer of cases originating in Hood River County and Wasco County from juvenile court to tribal court.

I have reviewed the matter with the other judges in the Seventh Judicial District. We agree that the proposed amendment is appropriate for reasons ranging from geographic proximity to enhancing the delivery of culturally sensitive services to youth.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

John A. Olson
Circuit Court Judge

cc. Circuit Court Judges Karen Ostrye, Janet Stauffer, and John Wolf