



**TESTIMONY OF TIM ADDLEMAN, CHIEF OF POLICE,
CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF THE UMATILLA INDIAN RESERVATION
BEFORE THE OREGON STATE SENATE AND HOUSE JUDICIARY COMMITTEES
SENATE BILL 412
FEBRUARY 19, 2015**

Good afternoon, honorable chairmen and committee members. My name is Tim Addleman. I'm the Chief of Police for the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation. Prior to my current position I was with the Washington County Sheriff's Office and have long term experience as an officer within the State of Oregon beginning in 1977. It is with this background of experience that I strongly urge you to pass legislation to remove the "Sunset" provision from SB412 and make it permanent law. Passage of this legislation is critical to ensuring continuity of public safety in Indian country that has been demonstrated under SB 412.

SB 412 has proven to be a success since it was signed into law with all seven Oregon tribal police departments now being SB 412 compliant. Due to the Kurtz decision, prior to SB412 there was a lot of uncertainty as to how tribal police departments were going to be able to serve their community's public safety needs when it came to dealing with non-Indian offenders. On the Umatilla Indian Reservation approximately half of the population is non-Indian. But for SB412, we would be able to provide public safety or have enforcement jurisdiction over non-Indians. This includes the thousands of visitors to our reservation and the travelers passing through. We would have been unable to provide public safety or the enforcement of traffic crimes and infractions as well as criminal acts. The only option open to tribes was through deputation agreements with the local sheriff's office and these agreements were often limited in authority, especially when it came to investigative pursuit of offenders out of the county. Tribes were also handcuffed by a sheriff's decision as to which tribal officers they would deputize, and the changing of sheriffs could cause deputation agreements to go away all together. Prior to SB412, without a deputation agreement we would only be able to enforce tribal codes and have jurisdiction over Indians.

These circumstances caused strained relationships between tribes and some sheriffs. Under SB 412 this is no longer an issue. Rather than strained relationships between local law enforcement we start out on equal authority which brings on good working relationships. In my conversations with Umatilla County Sheriff Rowan he has told me that he has seen the benefits of SB 412 and fully supports it. Since SB 412, my tribal police department has continued to be a partner in local law enforcement cooperation. We are a member of the Blue Mountain Enforcement Team (BENT), the Umatilla County Major Crimes Team, the Umatilla-Morrow County Mutual Aid Agreement, and other such interagency cooperation.

I would like to give a specific success of SB 412 to highlight a significant investigation by my tribal police department. This case is one of the worst cases of child sexual abuse that I have ever heard of in my 37 plus years in law enforcement, which includes my assignment investigating sexual abuse cases during my career with the Washington County Sheriff's Office. This horrific case occurred within the boundaries of the Umatilla Reservation. The victim was

eight years old at the time that the sexual assaults began and over the course of six years she suffered at the hands of two adult men and her own adult sister. Without SB 412 we would not have been able to investigate this case because it involved a non-Indian victim and non-Indian suspects, and it took us off the reservation to conduct investigations of other potential crime scenes. If it was not for SB412, it would have had to go to a heavily understaffed sheriff's office.

In closing, I strongly urge you to support passage of the legislation to remove the "Sunset" provision from SB412 and make it permanent law for the sake of public and law enforcement safety.

Thank you.