



Legislative Commission on Indian Services

Oregon State Capitol
900 Court Street NE Room 167
Salem, Oregon 97301
(503) 986-1067 Phone

<https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/cis>

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 1528 AND THE

-2 AMENDMENTS

SENATE RULES COMMITTEE

FEBRUARY 16, 2016

Dear Madam Chair and Mister Co-Chair, good afternoon. For the record my name is Karen Quigley and I serve as the Executive Director of the Legislative Commission on Indian Services. Thank you for the opportunity to say a few words about SB 1528 and the -2 Amendments and then, with your permission, it will be my privilege to introduce the Chair of the Legislative Commission on Indian Services and recently re-elected Chair of the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians.

From my vantage point of having served as Executive Director for over 20 years of the Commission's 40 year existence, I would like you to know this Legislative Commission has been an amazing tool for the State of Oregon. Compared to other states, and in large part because of the Commission, Oregon has benefitted ^{from having an} on-going high-level place for discussion among the nine federally recognized tribal governments in Oregon and the State on all sorts of issues—cultural and natural resources, education, health, public safety and economic development.

While the original Commission statute in 1975 listed the Commission's purpose as improving services to Indians, this bill makes explicit an additional purpose critical to the Commission's effectiveness: to promote communication and relations between the tribal governments and the State.

It is a powerful statement of commitment to have four legislators serve on the Commission, including this Committee's Vice-Chair.

Tribal governments have also demonstrated their strong support: their governmental Leaders represent their respective sovereign nations on the Commission—notwithstanding all their other tribal governmental duties.

SB 1528 serves to acknowledge and respect those other roles and

Dan Courtney, LCIS Vice- Chair
Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe

Jarvis Kennedy
Burns Paiute

Brenda Meade
Coquille Indian Tribe

Mark Ingersoll
*Confederated Tribes of
Coos Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw*

Cheryle Kennedy
Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde

Don Gentry
Klamath Tribes

Justin Quaempts
Confederated Tribes of Umatilla

Raymond Tsumpti
Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs

Jackie Mercer
Portland Area

Senate Republican Leader Ted Ferrioli
Oregon Legislature-Senate

Senator Arnie Roblan
Oregon Legislature-Senate

Representative Caddy McKeown
Oregon Legislature-House

Representative Duane Stark
Oregon Legislature-House

Karen M. Quigley
LCIS Executive Director

responsibilities of these tribally elected officials. This bill addresses the status of Tribal Leaders on the Commission when they may be together at meetings, events and ceremonies-- or if they are involved together in other activities as Tribal members and Tribal Leaders including discussions of issues concerning Indians and tribal governments-- outside of meetings of the Legislative Commission on Indian Services.

To be clear--Meetings of the Legislative Commission on Indian Services like the one this Thursday have always been and will remain open to the public. Tribal Government Day and other events sponsored by LCIS here at the Capitol are open to the public.

SB 1528 and the -2 Amendments make No Changes for Members of the Legislative Assembly who serve on the Commission nor the roles and responsibilities of the Executive Director.

Thank you for your consideration of the merits of SB 1528 and the -2 amendments.