



To: Senate Committee on Education
From: Justin Martin, Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde
Date: February 11, 2019
Subject: Please Support Senate Bill 293

Chair Wagner, Vice-Chair Thomsen, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Justin Martin, and I am here today on behalf of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde where I am also a tribal member. We are here in support of Senate Bill 293.

The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde Health and Wellness Center (HWC) currently provides medical, dental, optometry, behavioral health, lab/X-ray, pharmacy and community health services. In 2016 the HWC served 6075 patients for a total of 22,380 visits. The patients come from all over Oregon, but are primarily from Yamhill, Polk and Marion counties. Approximately 70% of the total patients are American Indian or Alaskan Native, with the remaining 30% being non-native community members.

We are thankful to Senator Hansell and to OHSU for their cooperative spirit and for reaching out to Oregon tribes to establish this program. We look forward to a relationship that will bring together efforts between Oregon's premier learning institution, Oregon's federally recognized Indian tribes and our rural communities.

Oregon is truly unique when it comes to the relationship between the state and the tribes. Together, we have done amazing things, from Governor Atiyeh and the creation of the Commission on Indian Services, to Governor Kitzhaber's Executive Order 96-30, and then passage of SB 770, which put into statute the government-to-government relationship. We should all be proud as Oregonians of the work done to solidify a strong bond between the state and the tribes. This is yet another example of the collaboration that continues to make Oregon a leader in State tribal relations.

Again, the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde encourages support for Senate Bill 293.