A-Bill-for-an-Act

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

SECTION 1. The Legislative Assembly finds and declares that:

(1) American Indian tribal languages have been spoken since time immemorial and are still spoken.

(2) Oregon's American Indian languages have been interrupted by relocation of American Indian tribes to reservations, separation of American Indian tribes, eradication of ancestral livelihoods, federal boarding school policies, forced religious conversion and other systemic federal policies to assimilate American Indian people into the greater American population.

(3) American Indian languages are also known as heritage languages and are in different stages of revitalization in tribal communities in Oregon.

(4) Heritage languages are vital and the efforts at revitalization by American Indian tribes deserve recognition and support in addition to ORS 329.493 and 342.144.

SECTION 2. (1) As used in this section and section 1 of this 2019 Act, “American Indian tribe” means an Indian tribe as that term is defined in ORS 97.740.

(2) The Legislative Assembly declares that the American Indian languages of the nine tribes of Oregon, as follows, are official Oregon heritage languages:

(a) Burns Paiute Tribe: Paiute and Wadatika Yaduan.

(b) The Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians: Miluk, Hanis and Sha'yushtl'a.

(e) The Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation: Umatilla, Walla Walla and Weyiiletpuu.
(f) The Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs: Kiksht, Ichishkiin and Numu.
(g) Coquille Indian Tribe: Miluk, Athabaskan and Chinuk Wawa.
(h) Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians: Takelma.
(i) Klamath Tribes: Klamath.

(3) Each American Indian tribe of Oregon may determine its needs for and plans to revitalize its heritage languages. The Department of Education shall communicate at least once each quarter with each American Indian tribe regarding the needs and plans of each American Indian tribe and shall provide any needed assistance and support to the American Indian tribe, including collaboration in the development of a curriculum with Oregon educators, the establishment of community forums and the creation of learning spaces for the American Indian tribe.

SECTION 3. There is appropriated to the Department of Education, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2019, out of the General Fund, the amount of $900,000 for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of section 2 of this 2019 Act.

SECTION 4. This 2019 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2019 Act takes effect on its passage.