Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation

Board of Trustees



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Testimony of the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation
Hearing before the Senate Committee on Environment & Natural Resources
SB 1530
February 4, 2020

Good afternoon. I'm Kat Brigham, Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation. The Umatilla Tribes welcome and appreciate the interest of the legislature and the governor in tackling the challenge of Climate Change.

While all will feel the impacts of climate change, tribal people often shoulder a greater share of the burden because of our close ties to our traditional-use lands and our First Foods.

The Umatilla Tribes have been and continue to invest our resources to mitigate and prepare for Climate Change impacts.

State actions are necessary to complement the efforts already underway by tribes and others. Senate Bill 1530's focus on reducing greenhouse gas emissions economy-wide, while addressing impacted communities in rural areas, are steps in the right direction.

We appreciated the opportunity to review LC 19 during the interim. We identified several improvements to the bill and understand that many of those changes will be considered by you in the Dash 2 amendment. Thank you and the Governor's office for choosing to consult with Oregon's tribes through our Government-to-Government process.

The Umatilla Tribes ask that the Legislature support Senate Bill 1530 and take an important step towards reducing the risks of Climate Change to all of our health, our traditions, our culture, and the economic security of our future generations.