JANEEN SOLLMAN STATE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 30



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

March 18, 2021

RE: Support for House Bill 2526

Chair Smith Warner, Vice Chairs Drazan and Holvey and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to share my support for House Bill 2526. I am Janeen Sollman, the State Representative for House District 30 which covers areas of Western Washington County. Prior to settlers moving out West to colonize the land we now know as Oregon, there were many Indigenous People and cultures already living and thriving here. Giving recognition to Indigenous People and their land, is a way for our state to honor them. The Hillsboro School District recently did so by naming their newest elementary school in House District 30 in North Plains, Atfalati Ridge Elementary. The Atfalati were the northernmost band of the Kalapuya who lived along the Tualatin River in present day Washington County.

For too long our state has ignored both the contributions of Oregon's Native Americans to the state's early history, as well as the misdeeds that were done to them. Designating the second Monday of October as Indigenous Peoples' Day would set aside a day explicitly for remembering and honoring these cultures and their contributions. The day itself also sends a significant message by honoring those who lost their homes and land to colonizers, rather than celebrating their colonization. It would prove to be a strong and important learning experience for our younger generation as well. I am proud to sponsor House Bill 2526 and urge your support of this bill so that we can officially recognize the contributions of Indigenous Peoples to our great state.

Sincerely,

Janeen Sollman