



Native American Youth and Family Center

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March 23, 2021

To: Chair Smith Warner, Vice-Chair Drazan, Vice-Chair Holvey, and Members of the House Committee on Rules

RE: House Bill 2337 – Support

Chair Smith Warner, Vice-Chair Drazan, Vice-Chair Holvey, and Members of the House Committee. For the record, my name is William Miller, I am Blackfeet and Cherokee and I represent the Native American Youth and Family Center (NAYA) located in Portland, Oregon. Founded by the community, for the community, the NAYA Family Center is a family of numerous tribes and voices who are rooted in sustaining tradition and building cultural wealth. We provide culturally specific programs and services that guide our people in the direction of personal success and balance through cultural empowerment. Our continuum of lifetime services creates a wraparound, holistic healthy environment that is Youth Centered, Family Driven, and Elder Guided. I am writing today in support of House Bill 2337.

NAYA Family Center worked tirelessly to rid our communities of racism, hate, oppression, and colonization. HB 2337 would put into motion the resources needed to combat this growing crisis throughout the state. Not only does the bill declare racism as a public health crisis, it acknowledges Oregon's racist history and the impact it has on our policies and systems. Investments to combat this crisis are paramount – Oregon must take swift and bold action to stand in the face of racism and oppression.

On behalf of the Native American Youth and Family Center we urge the passage of House Bill 2337.

Thank you,

William Miller
Community Advocacy Manager