



Native American Youth and Family Center

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April 5, 2021

To: Chair Nathanson, Vice-Chair Pham, Vice-Chair Reschke and Members of the House Committee on Revenue

RE: House Bill 3373 – Support

Chair Nathanson, Vice-Chair Pham, Vice-Chair Reschke and Members of the 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 speaking today in support of House Bill 3373.

The NAYA Family Center participated in providing free tax services to members in our community for the better part of 10-years. As Matt mentioned, the EITC Work Group which completed in May of 2020, “investments should be made in culturally specific/competent organizations to provide tax filer support in languages other than English, by trusted partners, and at trusted community hubs.” What ultimately led to our organization being unable to continue our participation was the continued lack of funding provided for such services. Increased funding and supports, by way of legislation such as HB 3373 would continue to allow community-based organizations and culturally specific organizations the opportunity to support clients through tax preparation and tax advocacy.

On behalf of the Native American Youth and Family Center, we urge your support of HB 3373.

Thank you,

William Miller