

Oregon Department of Human Services

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May 6, 2021

Senator Gelser, Chair Senator Anderson, Vice Chair Members of the Senate Committee on Human Services, Mental Health & Recovery

From: Oregon Department of Human Services (ODHS)

Re: Urging Support for HB 3182 A

The Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) is federal law created to preserve tribal culture, foster tribal sovereignty, and keep tribal children and families together. During the first special session of 2020, the Oregon Legislature passed House Bill 4214, the Oregon Indian Child Welfare Act. The Oregon Indian Child Welfare Act (ORICWA) adopted existing federal law to ensure tribal family structure is preserved in Oregon. House Bill 3182 A, will make technical corrections to ORICWA and will have these specific impacts on ODHS:

- Requires the Oregon Department of Human Services to take certain steps when there is reason to know that a child is a tribal child after the child is relinquished or surrendered to the agency.
- Requires the Oregon Department of Human Services to file a compliance report with the court.
- Requires the Oregon Department of Human Services to adopt rules regarding the confidentiality of tribal adoption records.
- Requires the Oregon Department of Human Services to report to the Interim Judiciary Committees by March 24, 2024.

Passage of HB 3182 A will improve the effectiveness of the Oregon Indian Child Welfare Act and further demonstrate Oregon's commitment to tribal children and the preservation of family culture.

For more information please contact:

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