

**TESTIMONY ON SB 183A  
FULL FAITH AND CREDIT OF TRIBAL JUDGMENTS, DECREES AND ORDERS  
BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY  
MAY 13, 2021**

**PRESENTED BY: HON. ANNETTE HILLMAN, JUDGE,  
JEFFERSON COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT  
OREGON JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT**

Chair Bynum, Vice Chairs Noble and Power, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Annette Hillman and I am the Presiding Circuit Court Judge in Jefferson County. I am writing in support of Senate Bill (SB) 183A.

Senate Bill 183A provides full faith and credit to judgments and orders of tribal courts, and ensures that tribal judgments, orders, and decrees are enforceable across our state. Over the past several years, I have worked with the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs and local law enforcement to improve enforcement of tribal court orders within my judicial district. Specifically, meeting with community partners and facilitating discussions between the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs and Jefferson County Circuit Court and law enforcement on April 30, 2019. We followed up with a workshop discussing mapping and enforcing tribal court protection orders on August 23, 2019 facilitated by our federal partners attended by community partners. As a result of our collaboration between community partners, we determined that a statutory change can provide clarification to law enforcement to enforce tribal orders and I believe SB 183A is the way to effect that change.

I would like to share a story that illustrates the need for this bill:

I recently had a Petitioner appear before me in Jefferson County Circuit Court seeking a Family Abuse Protection Act (FAPA) protection order. She brought with her a copy of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs order granting her protection from the same Respondent. She testified that she was seeking an additional protection order in our court because the Respondent had violated the no contact provision in Jefferson County and law enforcement were called but refused to take action telling her they would not enforce the tribal protection order despite her having a copy of the protection order to show them. Notwithstanding that incident, I made findings that she qualified under Oregon law to be granted a FAPA protection order in Jefferson County.

This Petitioner's story demonstrates exactly why this proposed legislation is so important. There can't be any question that a protection order lawfully granted in a tribal court shall be enforced, if violated off of tribal lands and within Oregon, to protect victims of abuse. I have no doubt that similar situations occur throughout Oregon. The current process is both inefficient, and leaves victims open to further abuse. This measure would ensure that victims of domestic violence, and others, are not required to go through two similar court processes to receive protection.

Please join me in support of SB 183A. Thank you for considering my written testimony.