

Senate Committee on Education
Testimony in Support of HB 4033
February 15, 2022

Chair Dembrow, Vice-Chair Thomsen, and Senators Gelser
Blouin, Gorsek, and Robinson,

My name is Camille Mercier and I am a member of the Oregon Commission for Women (OCFW), and also an enrolled member of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde.

1. OCFW works toward economic, social, political, and legal equity for the women of Oregon with particular focus on marginalized and underrepresented women of color. We do this through advocacy, public policy research, leadership development, and partnerships.

2. In our statutory role of bringing equity focus and community voice into Oregon policy making, OCFW strongly supports HB 4033.

House Bill 4033 recognizes tribal sovereignty while continuing to address and grow the relationship between the government and Oregon's nine federally recognized tribes.

The new Tribal Early Learning Hub is a significant step in creating a Government-to-Government relationship between Oregon Tribes and the newly established Department of Early Learning and Care (DELIC). As such, members of the Tribal Advisory Committee (TAC) should be appointed by the Tribes themselves and not by the Department.

Oregon Commission for Women

Chair:

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Vice-Chair:

Dr. Krista Parent

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Camille Mercier
Angela Rico Cornwell, Esq.
Helen Richardson
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Legislative Members:

Senator Deb Patterson
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**Oregon Advocacy Commissions
Office Staff**

Albert Lee, Executive Director
Nancy Kramer, Policy & Research
Dr. Kyl Myers, Public Affairs



This amendment reflects the purpose and intent of Government-to-Government consultation and the right of Tribe's to select their own representatives.

I urge you to vote yes on HB 4033.

Sincerely,


Camille Mercier

Commissioner,
The Oregon Commission for Women

