



Numu Allottee Association

Non-Profit Organization of Oregon

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IRC § 501 (c) (3)

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"Undivided We Stand for Our Land"

VIA Email diana_leiseth@orp.uscourts.gov

March 8, 2023

Senate Human Services Committee
900 Court St. NE
Salem Oregon 97301

Dear Committee Members:

RE: SB 606 - Oregon Nonprofit Modernization Act

The Numu Allottee Association (NAA) respectfully encourages you to pass SB 606, the Oregon Nonprofit Modernization Act. Your support is critical to the health of the nonprofit sector and the communities we serve.

The Board of Directors of the NAA, invoke the divine blessing of Numunah (Creator) upon our efforts and purposes, in order to preserve for ourselves and our descendants rights secured under Treaties, Executive Orders, and benefits to which we are entitled under the federal laws and constitution of the United States and several states, to enlighten the public toward a better understanding of the Indian people, to preserve Indian culture and cultural resources, and otherwise to promote the welfare of the Indian people, and are representatives of and advocates for national, regional, and specific Individual Indian concerns as a result of intergenerational trauma that has presented itself in the form of genocide, disease, poverty, forced assimilation via removal of children from their families to boarding schools, the seizure and environmental destruction of homelands, and other routes of European colonization, and the General Indian Allotment Act.

NAA exists to promote economic development, preservation of the traditions and culture, and protection of the ancestral homeland of Native American owners of land

held in trust allotted to our ancestors over approximately 130 (1887) years ago, our mission includes:

- advocating for and promoting the rights, benefits responsibilities and culture heritage associated with Indian trust allotments with the former Malheur River Indian Reservation of Oregon,
- providing technical assistance, training, receiving, disseminating, and researching information concerning issues related to owners of Indian trust allotments,
- providing allottees and their prospective heirs with a forum for communication between themselves and with other interested persons, groups, organizations and governmental entities, publishing newsletters and soliciting donations, and
- seeking funding for grants.

NAA is organized exclusively for charitable, religious, educational, and scientific purposes, including, for such purposes, the making of distributions to organizations that qualify as exempt organizations under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code. Additionally, we serve Native American landowners who own public domain allotments and other allotments that are considered trust land and are legally defined as “Indian Country” in accordance to 18 USCS § 1151, the term “Indian country”, [18 USCS §§ 1151 et seq.], means“ (a) *all land within the limits of any Indian reservation under the jurisdiction of the United States Government, notwithstanding the issuance of any patent, and, including rights-of-way running through the reservation, (b) all dependent Indian communities within the borders of the United States whether within the original or subsequently acquired territory thereof, and whether within or without the limits of a state, and (c) all Indian allotments, the Indian titles to which have not been extinguished, including rights-of-way running through the same.*

By providing the technical assistance and training to the landowners, the goal is will strengthen their ability to build capacity in their rural community capacity, create vibrant sustainable economies, and cultivate inclusive approaches to governance in the management of their allotments. Specifically, The allotments known as the Burns Public Domain Allotments (allotments) are located in Harney County near Burns Oregon. According to the 2010 census, the population in Harney County was 7,422, making it the fifth-least populous county in Oregon.

Contracting challenges need to be dealt with in addition to procedural impediments that impact in the grant process and there are performance issues (lack of training) that has adversely affects our agricultural projects that are dependent on seasons and weather. These procedural impediments such as workforce turnover, late payments, low administrative rates, burdensome reporting requirements, complex or confusing applications.

By passing Senate Bill 606, the Oregon Nonprofit Modernization Act, in the 2023 state legislative session, can make a difference and help nonprofits retain staff and continue providing essential services and promoting all Oregonians’ well-being. As you know the State of Oregon relies on nonprofits to fill an essential role such as promoting the well-being of Oregonians every day, providing for basic needs like food and shelter, offering opportunities for education and economic advancement, supporting arts and

culture, protecting our civil rights and so much more. Easy and simple changes to government contracting practices that can be implemented right away and have an immediate impact.

Nonprofits face a daunting barrier to fulfilling their essential role. Nonprofits cannot exist without nonprofit employees, and nonprofit employees have an incredibly high rate of burnout and turnover. All the following components of the bill listed below are key in helping our nonprofit meet its mission and serve its constituencies.

- Requiring a de minimis administrative rate of 10 percent or higher.
- Allowing or advance payments on a quarterly basis.
- Eliminating reimbursement as a form of payment for state grants.
- Requiring disbursement of contract funds within 30-days of signed contract
- Creating the Nonprofit Workforce Retention Fund to provide grants nonprofits to help maintain and prevent employee turnover.
- Creating a state task force to reform nonprofit contracting to streamline and simplify the process, raise wages.
- and create an ecosystem of administrative policies, statutes and funding levels that lead to sustainable.
- government/nonprofit partnerships.

The Numu Allottee Association appreciates your consideration of SB 606. Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions. You may contact Cheryl Lohman, Project Manager on cell: (541) 325-9313 or email: cllohman@numuallottee-association.org.

Respectfully,



Darryl Kyle Numan, President