



Portland State Institute for Tribal Government

CENTER FOR PUBLIC SERVICE
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April 24, 2023

Co-Chair Lew Frederick
Oregon State Senate
900 Court St. NE, S-419
Salem, Oregon 97301

Co-Chair Susan McClain
Oregon House Representatives
900 Court St. NE, H-493
Salem, Oregon 97301

Dear Mr. Frederick and Ms. McLain:

I am writing to request the Oregon Joint Committee on Ways and Means support full funding for two important state wide programs 1) Oregon Solutions, and 2) Oregon Consensus, funded as part of the dispute resolution services allocation. The Institute for Tribal Government is part of a recently awarded \$10M EPA Environmental and Energy Justice Technical Assistance Center.

It was the capacity and process expertise of the staff from Oregon Consensus and Oregon Solutions that helped partners convene a team to create this new capacity to support environmental justice communities in Oregon. That capacity will now help Tribes and rural communities across the northwest access federal funds for clean water, clean energy, and the opportunity to thrive into the future.

The legislative funds provided to Oregon Solutions and Oregon Consensus allow them to say 'yes' when community call them in for help in implementing sustainable solutions and cost effective resolutions to contentious issues. I am thankful the legislature recognizes the significance of these programs, and hope they will continue to be supported.

Sincerely,

Direlle Calica, J.D.

Director

Institute for Tribal Government

C:

Senator Michael Dembrow

Senator Suzanne Weber

Representative Tracy Cramer

Representative Emily McIntire

Representative Hoa Nguyen

Representative Ricki Ruiz