



OREGON
HEALTH
AUTHORITY

February 18, 2025

SB 835 & SB 841

Presented to:
Senate Committee on Health Care

Julie Johnson, Tribal Affairs Director



OHA honors the government-to-government relationship with the Nine Federally Recognized Tribes in Oregon.

OHA in partnership with Tribal representatives have discussed the importance of collecting and sharing back with the Tribes their data.

The Nine Tribes of Oregon should have their own data for the purpose of improving health in Tribal communities; for example - Medicaid data, Public Health data, Behavioral Health data, etc.

This will be Tribal data that would belong to each individual Tribe.

SB 835 – Collection of Tribal Affiliation Data

- Utilizing the Race, Ethnicity, Language, Disability model, it would become REALDT, T for Tribal Affiliation.
- Updating the current REALD statute is needed to authorize the collection of tribal specific data, with confidentiality protections, honoring tribal sovereignty.
- This will add a tribal affiliation question as a part of REALD data collection standards.
- It allows OHA to protect the data and share it only with the Tribe it belongs to at their discretion.
- Data governance policies and procedures will be developed and in place before the data is collected.

SB 841 – Sharing Public Health Data with Tribes

- Allows OHA-Public Health Division (PHD) to enter into agreements with the Nine Federally Recognized Tribes in Oregon and the Northwest Tribal Epidemiology Center (NWTEC) to:
 - Investigate reportable diseases
 - Access information necessary to complete those investigations
 - Ensure access to and confidentiality of data
- This would improve collaboration between OHA-PHD and the Tribes for disease investigation and data sharing related to reportable diseases.
- This bill will also allow OHA to enter into data sharing agreements to allow Prescription Drug Monitoring Program data to be shared with the Nine Tribes and the NWTEC for data linkage for research, education, and public health evaluation.

Questions?

Thank you!

Julie Johnson
Tribal Affairs Director

Contact:

Robert Lee

Senior Policy Advisor

Robert.Lee@oha.oregon.gov

