

HB 3531 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water

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Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Meeting Dates: 3/17

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure requires the Commission on Indian Services to employ a natural resources management tribal liaison officer (liaison officer) to facilitate opportunities for integrated natural management between Indian tribes in Oregon and those state agencies charged with natural resources and water management.

Detailed Summary

Requires the Commission on Indian Services (commission) to employ a natural resources management tribal liaison officer (liaison officer) to facilitate opportunities for integrated natural management between Indian tribes in Oregon and those state agencies charged with natural resources and water management. The measure appropriates \$_____ from the General Fund to the commission for implementation.

Appropriates \$_____ from the General Fund to the commission in order for the liaison officer to:

- Identify and promote opportunities for improved integration and coordination between tribes and state agencies or other governmental entities on natural resources-related issues
- Assist with advancing the recommendations of the Oregon Tribal Water Task Force (task force)
- Support continued facilitation of the task force.

Declares an emergency, effective July 1, 2025.

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued

REVENUE: May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

There are nine federally recognized Indian tribes in Oregon: the Burns Paiute Tribe; the Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw; the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation; the Coquille Indian Tribe; the Klamath Tribes; the Cow Creek Band of the Umpqua Tribe of Indians; the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation; the Confederated Tribes of Grande Ronde; and the Confederated Tribes of Siletz.

The Legislative Commission on Indian Services (LCIS) was created by statute in 1975 with the intention to improve services to Indians in Oregon. It currently includes thirteen members who are appointed jointly by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the President of the Senate based on nominations submitted by American Indian tribes and certain communities in Oregon. The specific statutory duties of LCIS include compiling information about services to Indians; developing and sponsoring programs to inform about available services and to make needs and concerns known to both the public and private agencies whose activities affect Indians; encouraging public and private agencies to expand and improve services to Indians; assessing state agency programs operating for the benefit of Indians; and reporting biennially to the Legislative Assembly.