



Oregon Early Learning Council

700 Summer Street NE, Suite 350

Salem, OR 97301

SUE MILLER
*Chair, Early Learning
Council*

February 18, 2025

KATY BROOKS

House Committee on Early Childhood and Human Services

PETER BUCKLEY

900 Court St. NE

ELIZABETH FARRAR
CAMPBELL

Salem, OR 97301

DR. MARGARET MILLER

SOOBIN OH

RUBY RAMIREZ

Dear Chair Hartman, Vice Chair Nguyen, Vice Chair Scharf and Committee Members:

MARIE SIMONDS

The Early Learning Council offers its support for HB 2815 which would establish a Tribal Early Learning Plan and Fund. This bill upholds tribal sovereignty and ensures that the nine federally recognized tribes in Oregon have authority to design, implement and oversee early learning programs that reflect their cultures and priorities within their communities.

ALYSSA CHATTERJEE
*Early Learning
System Director*

Early learning and care supports are vital for Tribal nations as they support the development and education of Tribal children and families. The provisions of this bill directly align with the Council's strategic plan, *Raise Up Oregon*, in honoring and recognizing Tribal sovereignty and government to government relationships.

The Council was excited to learn that the Governor's Recommended Budget includes \$4.75 million for a dedicated Tribal Early Learning Fund and provides Tribes with flexible funding to access early learning resources.

We urge your support of HB 2815.

Sincerely,

Sue Miller
Chair, Early Learning Council