

REVENUE:

FISCAL:

SUBSEQUENT REFERRAL TO:

Action:

Vote:

Yeas:

Nays:

Exc.:

Prepared By: James LaBar, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 3/4, 3/11

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Authorizes county to sell or donate property to eligible Indian tribes in Oregon. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- All thirty-six counties in Oregon support the bill
- Indian tribes in Oregon
- Oregon history with Indigenous peoples
- Adjacent Indian tribe territories

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

(-2 *amendment*) Provides eligible tribe the right of first refusal to purchase property that is located within the boundaries of their existing or former reservation.

BACKGROUND: Current law enables counties to grant an option to purchase, contract to sell and convey or donate county lands to the state or federal government. Senate Bill 548 amends this section to authorize such transactions with any recognized Oregon tribe. It would streamline the process, for example, of transferring county tax foreclosed lands to the tribes for burial grounds, shell middens, sacred sites or for economic development as the county can presently do with the state and other local governments.

The measure is supported by the Association of Oregon Counties and the Oregon Public Property Manager's Association.

The eligible Indian tribes are defined in ORS 307.181, include the Burns Paiute Tribe, the Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians, the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon, the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians of Oregon, the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon, the Coquille Indian Tribe, the Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians or the Klamath Tribes.