

# Senate Bill 288

Sponsored by Senator ROBLAN (Presession filed.)

## SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Expands where special district public bodies may hold public meetings to include locations within Indian country of federally recognized Oregon Indian tribe that is within Oregon.

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

1  
2 Relating to public meetings in Indian country; amending ORS 192.630.

3 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

4 **SECTION 1.** ORS 192.630 is amended to read:

5 192.630. (1) All meetings of the governing body of a public body shall be open to the public and  
6 all persons shall be permitted to attend any meeting except as otherwise provided by ORS 192.610  
7 to 192.690.

8 (2) A quorum of a governing body may not meet in private for the purpose of deciding on or  
9 deliberating toward a decision on any matter except as otherwise provided by ORS 192.610 to  
10 192.690.

11 (3) A governing body may not hold a meeting at any place where discrimination on the basis  
12 of race, color, creed, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, age or disability is practiced. However,  
13 the fact that organizations with restricted membership hold meetings at the place does not restrict  
14 its use by a public body if use of the place by a restricted membership organization is not the pri-  
15 mary purpose of the place or its predominant use.

16 (4)(a) Meetings of the governing body of a public body shall be held:

17 (A) Within the geographic boundaries over which the public body has jurisdiction;

18 (B) At the administrative headquarters of the public body;

19 (C) At the nearest practical location; or

20 (D) If the public body is a state, county [*or*], city **or special district** entity, within Indian  
21 country of a federally recognized Oregon Indian tribe that is within the geographic boundaries of  
22 this state. For purposes of this subparagraph, "Indian country" has the meaning given that term in  
23 18 U.S.C. 1151.

24 (b) Training sessions may be held outside the jurisdiction as long as no deliberations toward a  
25 decision are involved.

26 (c) A joint meeting of two or more governing bodies or of one or more governing bodies and the  
27 elected officials of one or more federally recognized Oregon Indian tribes shall be held within the  
28 geographic boundaries over which one of the participating public bodies or one of the Oregon Indian  
29 tribes has jurisdiction or at the nearest practical location.

30 (d) Meetings may be held in locations other than those described in this subsection in the event  
31 of an actual emergency necessitating immediate action.

**NOTE:** Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted.  
New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 (5)(a) It is discrimination on the basis of disability for a governing body of a public body to meet  
2 in a place inaccessible to persons with disabilities, or, upon request of a person who is deaf or hard  
3 of hearing, to fail to make a good faith effort to have an interpreter for persons who are deaf or  
4 hard of hearing provided at a regularly scheduled meeting. The sole remedy for discrimination on  
5 the basis of disability shall be as provided in ORS 192.680.

6 (b) The person requesting the interpreter shall give the governing body at least 48 hours' notice  
7 of the request for an interpreter, shall provide the name of the requester, sign language preference  
8 and any other relevant information the governing body may request.

9 (c) If a meeting is held upon less than 48 hours' notice, reasonable effort shall be made to have  
10 an interpreter present, but the requirement for an interpreter does not apply to emergency meetings.

11 (d) If certification of interpreters occurs under state or federal law, the Oregon Health Author-  
12 ity or other state or local agency shall try to refer only certified interpreters to governing bodies  
13 for purposes of this subsection.

14 (e) As used in this subsection, "good faith effort" includes, but is not limited to, contacting the  
15 department or other state or local agency that maintains a list of qualified interpreters and ar-  
16 ranging for the referral of one or more qualified interpreters to provide interpreter services.

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