



# Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

**Board of Dentistry**  
1500 SW 1st Ave. Ste 770  
Portland, OR 97201-5837  
(971) 673-3200  
Fax: (971) 673-3202

**TO:** Governor Kate Brown and The Commission on Indian Services

**FROM:** Stephen Prisby, OBD Executive Director

**DATE:** December 2, 2022

**SUBJECT:** OBD Report per ORS 182.164 & 182.166

---

The Oregon Board of Dentistry (OBD) is reporting on its activities in compliance with ORS 182.166(3) related to its interaction and collaboration with the Tribes and tribal communities in Oregon.

A policy named the “OBD Tribal Relationship & Cooperation Policy” was implemented in February 2022. This is to enhance and encourage dialogue on any issue that is important to the Tribes. This policy is in place to ensure the OBD has a documented policy in place and demonstrates the OBD’s compliance with statutory requirements.

Most of recent interaction with tribal members centers on HB 2528 (2021), which is commonly referred to as the Dental Therapy Bill. This historic legislation was signed by Governor Kate Brown on July 19, 2021. The OBD is now responsible for promulgating rules and licensing dental therapists. The OHA’s Dental Pilot Project #100 paved the way for this work and subsequent legislation.

The OBD created a new standing committee to make recommendations on new and amended rules for dental therapy. This standing committee includes three people with experience in dental pilot project #100 and have strong ties to the tribes either as members or working for one of the tribes. All Committee meetings are public and recent meeting packets and minutes are regularly updated on the OBD Website. The initial rules regulating dental therapists were effective July 1, 2022.

The OBD is a small agency with 8 full time employees, and 10 volunteer Board Members. The Board licenses dentists, dental therapists, dental hygienists along with regulating and administering all provisions of the Dental Practice Act.

The OBD sent its Office Manager to attend the fall 2022 Tribe – State Government Summit in Florence. I was unable to attend due to a conflict with other meetings.

The Tribes are always invited to attend and address the OBD on any issue that it feels is important to them. They are on every regular board meeting agenda to participate in the OBD Board Meetings. The OBD's Tribal Relationship & Cooperation Policy addresses ORS 186.166.

Sincerely,  
Stephen Prisby  
[Stephen.Prisby@OBD.Oregon.Gov](mailto:Stephen.Prisby@OBD.Oregon.Gov)