

Board of Examiners For Speech-Language Pathology & Audiology 800 NE Oregon, Suite 407 Portland, OR 97232-2162

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December 12, 2024

To: Governor Kotek and The Commission on Indian Services

From: Erin K. Haag, Executive Director

Board of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology & Audiology (BSPA/The Board)

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Please accept this memorandum as our official annual report on the Board's activities related to its interaction and collaboration with the Tribes and Tribal Communities in Oregon in compliance with ORS 182.166(3).

Purpose: The Board of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology (BSPA) was established in 1973 to protect the public by regulating the practices of speech-language pathology and audiology, and by licensing and regulating the state's more than 4,000 speech-language pathologists (SLPs), speech-language pathology assistants (SLPAs) and audiologists. These professionals provide services to thousands of Oregonians in hospitals, home health settings, private practices, early intervention/special education programs and the K-12 school system. [ORS 681.220 – Policy]

The Board's Executive Director attended the 2024 Tribal-State Government-to-Government Summit, co-hosted by the Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians in July.

The Board's strategic plan is being built and revised using an equity lens in its licensing and enforcement programs. All Administrative Rules are being reviewed for possible revision during 2025, and we will reach out to the Governor's Tribal staff as well as Tribes to ensure they are aware of and have input into these updates. This work begins at the January 31, 2025 Board meeting, and we hope to have all rules changes in place for approval before the November meeting.