

RESTORING WATER EQUITY FUNDING

Office of Rep. Hartman

This funding request aims to **restore \$1 million** allocated by the 2021 legislature **for tribes and environmental justice communities** working on water issues, crucially addressing unmet community needs.

THE PROBLEM

Oregon's water systems face stress from aging infrastructure, lack of investment, and climate change, disproportionately affecting environmental justice communities. **Previous legislative commitments went unspent due to agency inaction**, compounding historical injustices.

RESTORING PROMISED FUNDING

Oregon Tribes and Environmental Justice Communities are asking us to restore

- **\$1 million to the Just Futures Initiative (University of Oregon) and the Center for Public Service (Portland State University) to provide grants for clean water access and sanitation projects in communities and to continue water-related work, including the Tribal Water Work Group.**

ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES

This funding will **empower tribes and environmental justice communities** to address water challenges, fostering participation in state-level discussions, and decision-making processes through

- **Small grants for the 9 federally recognized tribes to increase capacity for water-related work and continued participation in the Tribal Water Work Group.**
- **Small grants for organizations supporting communities to address water challenges, improving community health and well-being.**