

What Community Leaders on Oregon's Coast Are Saying About The legislation:

"A new, state of the art health care center and pharmacy will truly be a transformative development in north Tillamook County. The new health center/pharmacy will double the size of the current aging facility, allowing better delivery of services including specialty care, to more residents and visitors. The Nehalem Bay Health District is enormously grateful to Senators Merkley and Wyden for understanding and supporting quality health care close to home in rural Oregon," **said Marc C. Johnson, President, Nehalem Bay Health District.**

"This bill provides much needed funding for several public safety radio communications enhancements in Lincoln County," **said Lincoln County Sheriff Curtis Landers.** "We are very thankful of Senators Merkley and Wyden and the support they have shown to improve the quality of our communications system. This funding will directly affect the safety and security of our citizens and visitors as well as the safety of our first responders."

"Columbia Memorial Hospital (CMH) is incredibly grateful to Senators Merkley and Wyden for their support of this critical funding. CMH will utilize the requested funds to help renovate an existing CMH owned building that is located near its main campus, but outside of the designated tsunami inundation zone. CMH's primary healthcare facility is located within the designated tsunami inundation zone and at the foot of a historic landslide. These risks could limit CMH's ability to provide lifesaving healthcare services during and immediately after a natural disaster. The proposed renovation will enhance CMH's emergency preparedness by enabling CMH to use the building as an emergency operations center, a logistics and supply hub, and a patient evacuation site. The requested \$750,000 in federal funds will help offset the total project budget of \$2,122,243," **said Erik Thorsen, Chief Executive Officer of Columbia Memorial Hospital.**

"Restoring salmon and sustainable fisheries throughout Southwest Oregon is imperative to the Coquille Indian Tribe. The Tribe recently entered into a historic Cooperative Management Agreement with the State of Oregon creating a sovereign-to-sovereign partnership committed to enhancing Oregon's fish and wildlife resources. The Coquille Indian Tribe is deeply grateful to Senator Merkley and Senator Wyden for securing these funds for Cole Rivers Hatchery as it directly contributes the Coquille Tribe's ages-old stewardship legacy, its new Cooperative Manager role, and the preservation of salmon which is vital to our tribal culture," **said Brenda Meade, Chairman, Coquille Indian Tribe.**

"This funding will enable Tillamook Estuaries Partnership to purchase the instruments and equipment needed to monitor ocean acidification and dissolved oxygen in all five of our estuaries; flooding patterns and carbon sequestration in natural and restored wetlands; water temperatures in upland salmon-bearing rivers and streams; and other water quality and quantity parameters essential to wildlife and our way of life," **said Kristi Foster, PhD, Executive Director, Tillamook Estuaries Partnership.** "The information we collect will help us understand local climate impacts and prioritize adaptive, resilient green infrastructure and nature-based projects that enhance the health of our iconic estuaries, environment, and rural communities."

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