HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

REQUEST FOR INTERIM STUDY PROPOSAL

DATE: 6/26/2025

BY REPRESENTATIVE(S):

Clinton, Amanda

TOPIC OF THE PROPOSAL:

Strengthening State-Tribal-Municipal relations to address shared community goals and needs

EXPLANATORY COMMENTS ON THE SCOPE OF THE STUDY PROPOSAL:

Oklahoma is home to 38 federally recognized tribes and has the largest population of enrolled Tribal citizens in the United States. Tribal governments are among the most effective drivers of health care access, housing, early childhood education, and economic growth in the state. However, the framework for collaboration between tribes, the state, and municipalities remains inconsistent and, at times, strained, limiting the full potential of partnership.

This study will enable the legislature to explore opportunities for enhanced collaboration among Tribal nations, the State of Oklahoma, and municipal governments, thereby improving services and quality of life for all Oklahomans.

The goal is to strengthen intergovernmental relationships in a way that respects tribal sovereignty while leveraging the strengths of all levels of government to meet the pressing and diverse needs of Oklahoma communities.

a. Review current state policies and legal frameworks governing tribal consultation and collaboration, including committees, liaison offices, and intergovernmental agreements.
b. Identify best practices in existing partnerships among tribal nations, state agencies, and municipalities, particularly in the expansion of child care, housing, infrastructure, and economic development.
c. Examine barriers to effective co-governance and explore solutions to reduce jurisdictional conflict and enhance shared service delivery.
d. Explore models from other states with large Native populations that promote tribal inclusion in state and local planning and governance processes.
e. Consider potential legislation or administrative changes to promote respectful, consistent, and mutually beneficial collaboration among tribal, state, and local governments.

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Last revision date: 6/26/2025 2:46:19 pm

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