

HOUSE BILL ANALYSIS

HCR 4425

Brief Description: Creating a committee to improve tribal relations.

Sponsors: Morris, Dunn.

BRIEF SUMMARY

- Creates the Joint Select Committee on Legislative/Tribal Relations.

HOUSE STATE GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

Staff: Jim Morishima (786-7191)

BACKGROUND:

There are twenty-eight federally recognized Native American tribes located within Washington, with a combined population of approximately 91,000 people. Native American tribes are sovereigns and are governed by a variety of legal authorities including the tribes' own sovereignty, treaty, and federal law.

SUMMARY:

The Joint Select Committee on Legislative/Tribal Relations is created. The committee must review, study, and recommend how the Legislature and tribes may develop more effective relationships and arrange for intergovernmental mechanisms in order to be able to work together on common interests and problems. The committee must also study of how other state legislatures and tribal governments handle their intergovernmental relationships.

The committee must consist of twelve members, four members from the Senate, four members from the House, and four members from the tribes. The Governor may appoint an ad hoc member to represent the executive branch.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.

Effective Date: Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.