

BIG ROCK COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

P.O. Box 453
Crescent City, CA 95531
(707) 464-7769

April 20, 2018

Congressman Jared Huffman
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0502

Dear Congressman Huffman:

On behalf of the *Big Rock CSD*'s Board of Directors/Trustees, I am herewith responding to your letter, dated April 4, 2018, which I did not receive until April 13, 2018. Given your deadline of May 4, 2018, we Board members sincerely regret not having been given more than 22 days to consider your draft legislation regarding the proposed "Tolowa Dee-Ni' Nation Lands Act."

This California Special District was formed in 1966 to provide a number of municipal services to the community of Hiouchi. Our "place of use" includes the *Redwood National Park* and *Jedediah Smith Redwoods State Park* on the east side of the Hiouchi Bridge. Both parks were annexed into our jurisdiction in 2010. (You might refer your staff to our Municipal Service Review, dated November 30, 2015, that can be accessed via the *Del Norte Local Area Formation Commission*.)

Many of Hiouchi's residents and commercial enterprises have vented deep concern over the past few days regarding the timing and manner in which your office managed this request for input. Moreover, the map provided by your staff does not accurately reflect the wording of your draft bill. Neither the *Smith River CSD* nor the *Big Rock CSD* were given the opportunity to engage in earlier discussions with your office and the Tolowa Dee-Ni' Tribe to work out the details of such a monumental undertaking before releasing this draft legislation for public comment. In fact, we would be quite interested to know if you previously had coordinated with the Del Norte County Board of Supervisors. If you are truly committed to working with all affected stakeholders as your letter indicated, this project should have been managed to date quite differently.

In a regularly scheduled public meeting of the Board of Directors/Trustees held on April 19, 2018, the Board unanimously approved Resolution 2018-2 that "strongly objects" to your proposed legislation and all of its stated or otherwise unclear "purposes."

Respectfully yours,

Craig Bradford, President
Board of Directors/Trustees