

From the Desk of  
Senator  
James Ivory Manning Jr.

## **Labor & Management Agree: YES on SB 455**

- Taxpayer dollars for higher education construction projects should support programs that train Oregon's next generation of tradeswomen and tradesmen
- SB 455 makes the most of each capital construction dollar by ensuring that contractors employ State of Oregon registered apprentices
- Supports Oregon's workforce development goals by requiring a plan for outreach, recruitment, and retention of women and people of color into the skilled trades

### **Background**

Oregon's highly trained workforce is made possible by robust apprenticeship programs, many of which are privately funded. This bill would help strengthen communities by creating career opportunities and pathways into apprenticeship for the next generation and a gateway, particularly for women and residents of color. SB 455 will ensure that contractors who invest in BOLI-certified apprenticeship programs are prioritized for state-funded higher education projects.

In 2016, Oregon voters approved Measure 98 to support Career Technical Education (CTE) programs in Oregon high schools. Additionally, Oregon's 40-40-20 goals call for 40 percent of young adults to hold an associate degree or career certificate. Clearly, there is a public mandate to connect young people to construction jobs, and SB 455 helps make that connection between high school and apprenticeship.

### **SB 455 is an aspirational standard that embodies Oregon values**

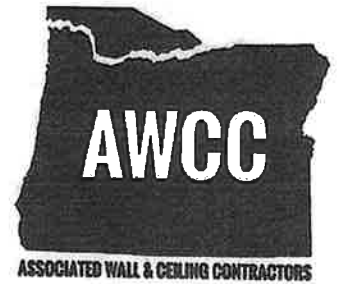
Oregon's certified apprenticeship programs help train the skilled construction workforce of the future. These programs are adept at bringing in traditionally underrepresented populations, including women and people of color. Contractors who actively reach out to Oregon's diverse communities are doing the right thing to train the next generation of skilled workers. SB 455 requires contractors to establish and execute a plan for outreach, recruitment, and retention of women and people of color. It also requires institutions of higher education to report to the legislature on the amount of work performed by apprentices, women, and people of color. This ensures state funds are invested in a way that benefits Oregon's workforce development goals.

SB 455 will require that construction contractors who bid on state-funded college and university projects are registered training agents through the Oregon Bureau of Labor and Industries. This applies to contracts over \$8 million and subcontracts over \$200,000. SB 455 is an aspirational standard because it allows colleges and universities to waive this standard in two circumstances: when there are not more than three bids and when requiring a certified training agent would create unreasonable expense or delay.

**Oregon labor standards should align with its higher education goals on state-funded higher education projects. Please vote YES on SB 455.**

(Please see reverse side for organizations' logos.)

# Labor & Management Organizations Support SB 455



Oregon &  
Southern Idaho  
District Council of  
Laborers

## LiUNA!



Plumbing and Mechanical  
Contractors Association