



May 18, 2021

House Economic Recovery and Prosperity Committee  
Via OLIS  
Re: SB 623A

Chair Lively, Vice-Chairs Cate & Kropf, Members of the Committee:

One of the keys to a successful economic recovery from the impacts of COVID-19 is the support of our workforce. Washington County has prioritized investment in workforce redevelopment as part of its recovery plan as we have moved through the COVID-19 pandemic. This was in recognition that as we saw long-term impacts to the economy many people would not be able to return to their previous job and that some sectors remained opportunities for better income and career paths.

To provide this educational opportunity, the county turned to our local workforce board, WorkSystems, Inc. Because of their expertise and their knowledge of the partnerships in the county, we were able to extend our resources to create opportunities for scores of individuals who are working towards education, training or certification goals. The workforce board's ability to tap community partners and work swiftly to put together a program to address this obvious need proved vital.

SB 623A is vital to continuing the process of enhancing our recovery as we move forward through our pandemic response and eventual recovery. By quickly assessing and developing more effective ways to provide these services using local experts and partners, we can be more successful in creating better economic outcomes for the community. The investment in finding ways to provide better services, SB 623A will greatly improve the overall economy of the state.

Washington County supports the passage of SB 623A and encourage your support.

Sincerely,

Erin Doyle  
erin\_doyle@co.washington.or.us