

OREGON WORKFORCE PARTNERSHIP

KIM PARKER-LLERENAS *OWP Chair* Willamette Workforce Partnership

March 2, 2023

RE: HB 2204

ERIN CARPENTER Eastern Oregon Workforce Board

Chair Lively, Vice-Chair McIntire, Ruiz, and Members of the Committee ,

BRIDGET DAZEY Clackamas Workforce Partnership

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support or opposition of HB 2204.

HEATHER DESART OWP Vice-Chair Northwest Oregon Works

ASHLEY ESPINOZA Lane Workforce Partnership

> HEATHER FICHT East Cascade Works

ANDREW MCGOUGH Work Systems Inc

HEATHER STAFFORD Rogue Workforce Partnership

KYLE STEVENS

OWP Treasurer

Southwestern Oregon

Workforce Investment Board

The Oregon Workforce Partnership (OWP) is a nonprofit workforce policy, funding, and coordinating organization comprised of over 200 community leaders representing business, labor, community-based, education, public sector, and elected officials from Oregon's nine Local Workforce Development areas. Oregon has an integrated one-stop service delivery model to provide a flexible, unified workforce development system branded as WorkSource Oregon (WSO). OWP members coordinate, oversee, and invest in the local WSO centers to ensure all Oregonians have access to the skills, training and support necessary to obtain family sustaining careers and support the talent needs of local industry.

HB 2091 (2021) funded the Oregon Youth Employment Program (OYEP), which provides meaningful paid work experiences – such as internships, apprenticeships, summer jobs, first jobs, and workforce preparation to young Oregonians between the ages of 14 and 24. It is crucial that youth have these opportunities to gain the soft skills/essential employability skills that will allow them to thrive in the workforce. HB 2204 builds on the work of HB 2091 (2021) by incentivizing employers to open their doors to youth interested in these work experiences. Continued participation from employers is critical for OYEP to be successful. We believe HB 2004 will both encourage new employers and keep existing employers participating in the program and hosting youth employment experiences.

11575 SW PACIFIC HWY #2135 TIGARD. OR 97223 Please contact our trusted representatives Iris Maria-Chavez and/or Doug Riggs on any questions you may have.

info@oregonworkforcepartnership.org oregonworkforcepartnership.org



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OWP Chair

Willamette Workforce Partnership

We are happy to answer any questions you may have or come before your committee to present additional information and share our collective vision to make Oregon a more prosperous place for all.

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Sincerely,















Trin Carpenter





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