



A STRONG VOICE FOR OREGON'S WORKERS

To: Co-Chairs Woods and Gomberg
Members of the joint subcommittee on Transportation and Economic Development

FR: Catie Theisen, Oregon AFL-CIO

RE: Semiconductor Investments towards high road jobs

March 14, 2023

The Oregon AFL-CIO represents 300,000 workers across Oregon and is a voice for all workers in the legislative process. As such, we are so excited about what semiconductor investment could and should mean for Oregon.

The federal government's passage of the CHIPS Act marks a critical step toward rectifying years of underinvestment in American manufacturing. We are excited for OREGON to harness every possibility presented with the ACT to boost domestic and local supply chains, strengthen infrastructure, and create thousands of high-paying jobs – from construction to ultimate implementation.

The CHIPS Act was also very clear that companies be held accountable for how they utilize taxpayer dollars to facilitate the growth of a well-trained, highly skilled workforce and to create opportunities for historically and currently marginalized communities to participate in CHIPS projects. As such, it's critical that Oregon's legislation on this issue fulfill those requirements and live our values as a state to promote and create family-supporting jobs and career pathways through requirements on prevailing wages, apprenticeships standards and project labor agreements so that state and federal dollars are invested into the highest quality jobs possible .

Through major investments like the CHIPS Act, we can keep building a resilient and robust economy. And if done thoughtfully, equitably and in compliance with the Federal directive and our values as a state, it can also meaningfully support working people and put us on the path to long-term success. We urge you to proactively incorporate these critical labor standards into SB 4 and any subsequent policies related to this important investment.

