



18 April 2023

To: House Committee on Higher Education
RE: SB 482

Dear Chair Lively and committee members,

The Port of The Dalles encourages you to support SB 482.

Due to the bi-state nature of the Columbia Gorge region, it is important that student instructional hours that occur in Washington, for a program developed in Oregon, are able to be counted as Oregon full-time equivalencies for the purposes of instruction time. Support of this bill will allow the Columbia Gorge Community College (CGCC) to expand it's aviation maintenance training program to the Columbia Gorge Regional airport, located in Dallesport, WA.

The Port of The Dalles works closely with CGCC on workforce development and training opportunities, and is excited by this program. Nationally, trained aviation maintenance techs are in demand, and this program will help fill that gap, as well as offer a great career option for students interested in this field.

Thank you for your public service and support.

Andrea Klaas, Executive Director