



**COALITION OF
OREGON SCHOOL
ADMINISTRATORS**



Date: February 19, 2025

To: House Committee on Labor and Workplace Standards

From: Parasa Chanramy, Coalition of Oregon School Administrators
Stacy Michaelson, Oregon School Boards Association

Subject: Letter of Support for [House Bill 3181](#)

Dear Chair Grayber, Vice Chairs Elmer and Muñoz, and Members of the House Committee on Labor and Workplace Standards:

On behalf of the Coalition of Oregon School Administrators and the Oregon School Boards Association, we submit this letter of support for House Bill 3181.

Youth apprenticeship programs reflect important partnerships between school districts, and local business and industry partners.

While participating in a youth apprenticeship program, students are also enrolled in: i) academic classes to work towards their graduation requirements; ii) in a youth apprenticeship-related course; and iii) are also employed by a participating employer.

Through these programs, students are able to see first-hand how what they are learning is relevant and career-connected. They are also able to better understand pathways into more professions, and what critical skills and experiences are necessary to be successful.

HB 3181 establishes a Task Force on Youth Apprenticeship consisting of 13 members with representatives from: both legislative chambers; the Bureau of Labor and Industries; the Department of Education; the Higher Education Coordinating Commission; employer and labor interests; organizations serving youth, workforce development, and social services. This Task Force will also include a student who has participated in a youth apprenticeship program.

In terms of representation in the Task Force, we would recommend adding a district administrator who has helped administer a youth apprenticeship program.

We support the formation of this Task Force so that Oregon can:

- Study youth apprenticeship programs and investments in the United States and in Oregon;



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- Identify ways to improve the alignment and coordination of youth apprenticeship programs that are designed for high school students, and adult apprenticeship programs for adults (ages 18-24);
 - Expand opportunities and pathways for students to work towards industry certification while they participate in their youth apprenticeship program; and
 - Explore methods to assess a student's participation in a youth apprenticeship program, and their progress towards earning their industry certification and credentials – specifically time-based and competency-based measures.

Our hope is that this study serves as a springboard for identifying and removing barriers for emerging youth apprenticeship programs in Oregon. Most importantly, we believe that these programs can help more students stay engaged through career-connected learning, see what possible careers exist and have a plan to reach their goals, and experience post-secondary success.

Please join us in supporting HB 3181.