

Submitter: Sara Stephens

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Higher Education and Workforce
Development

Measure, Appointment or
Topic: HB3669

Dear Committee Members,

I urge you to support the extension of the successful, bipartisan "Prosperity 10,000" legislation. This bill, which builds on the work of your former colleague Jeff Reardon, has proven to be an effective and efficient way to help those most in need in our communities.

Data shows this program works and the return on investment is significant!

A \$35 million investment will generate:
\$23.5 million in tax revenue.
\$195.4 million in reduced social service costs.

This proven program provides the following:

Targeted Support: The program focuses on individuals who need help the most in our communities.

Fast Results: The state ensured funding reached communities within 60 days, and the local Workforce Boards had programs running by day 61.

Proven Success:

85% of participants completed the program.

74% were employed by the end.

47% were women.

As of this year:

8,603 Oregonians have been served.

5,675 have participated in training and employment services.

2,928 had significant barriers to employment removed (e.g., record expungement, stable housing).

69% of program participants have found jobs with an average wage of \$21.05.

The program is a proven economic win and supports our workforce in meaningful ways. Please continue to support its success.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Sara Stephens | Interim Executive Director

Southwestern Oregon Workforce Investment Board (SOWIB)

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