



March 5, 2025

House Committee on Higher Education and Workforce Development  
900 Court Street NE  
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Chair Hudson, Vice-Chairs Fragala & Harbick, and Committee Members,

I am providing this testimony in support of HB3669.

C-TEC Youth Services at the Clackamas Education Service District has been a provider for Clackamas Workforce Partnership (CWP), our Local Workforce Development Board. With funds like those from HB3669, we have had a significant impact in supporting young people in our community. Here are some key accomplishments:

#### **Re-Engagement in Education**

- This fiscal year alone, we have served over 170 youth (ages 14–24), 94% of whom did not complete high school.
- Over 90 young adults have re-engaged with GED classes at Clackamas Community College (CCC).
- Nearly 40 participants have successfully completed their GED or diploma.

#### **Developing Career-Readiness Skills**

- More than 20 work-readiness training sessions have equipped youth with essential employment skills.
- 20 participants have received DMV assistance, ensuring they have the identification or licensing needed for employment.
- 25 participants completed financial literacy classes, with the option to enroll in an Individual Development Account (IDA) for future savings.

#### **Accessing Wraparound Services & Resources**

- 3 participants obtained birth certificates, a critical step toward securing services and employment.
- Over 30 young adults have transitioned into college, positioning them for better long-term career opportunities.

- We also offer food assistance (including SNAP applications), referrals to mental health and substance-use services, and connections to community partners such as AntFarm, IRCO, Northwest Family Services, and Job Corps.

Every young adult we serve faces barriers to success, and our dedicated staff work tirelessly to connect them with essential resources. Through strong partnerships with organizations such as ODHS, Vocational Rehabilitation, School Districts and Education Service Districts in Oregon and Washington, and Clackamas Community College's student services—including the Disability Resource Center, Associated Student Government, Career Center, food pantry, academic advising, and financial aid—we ensure our youth receive comprehensive support.

Without continued funding, these critical services risk being reduced or eliminated, leaving a gap in support for young people already facing academic, financial, and personal challenges. Fewer youth would be able to complete their GED or diploma, acquire vital identification, or receive the guidance and training needed to find stable employment. This loss would harm not only individual participants but also our broader community, which benefits from a well-prepared, educated workforce.

We are deeply grateful for your ongoing support and advocacy for programs like ours, which create real, transformative opportunities for youth. My earnest hope is that this committee will commit to continued investment in workforce services for the people of our community. We are asking for your support of HB3669, ensuring that every young adult has access to the resources they need to build a successful future.

Thank you for your time and dedication to this important work. I welcome the opportunity to discuss our program further and explore ways we can continue making a difference together.

Sincerely,



Larry Didway  
Superintendent

***Lead, serve and innovate for learning.***

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