

Chair Frederick, Vice-Chair Weber and Members of the Committee,

My name is Bobby Levy and I serve as the state representative for House District 58, which includes Umatilla, Union, and Wallowa Counties. In conjunction with SB 784 and SB 785, we bring you SB 786--which ensures that students who participate in career and technical student organizations like FFA, FBLA, and speech and debate receive the academic credit they deserve for their hard work.

These programs provide real-world skills in leadership, communication, and critical thinking—skills that directly translate to success in higher education and the workforce. Oregon public universities already grant credit for AP and IB courses, and it is only fair that students who complete rigorous CTSO programs receive the same recognition. SB 786 ensures that students who have demonstrated proficiency in public speaking, argumentation, and business communications receive credit comparable to introductory college courses, helping them save time and money while advancing their education.

With over 15,000 FFA members, 2,000 FBLA members, and 90 OSAA-sanctioned speech and debate teams across Oregon, this bill will benefit thousands of students—especially those in rural areas—who may not have as many opportunities to earn college credit or have limited access to AP and IB courses.

SB 786 rewards hard work, removes unnecessary barriers to college success, and supports the next generation of leaders in agriculture, business, and public service. I urge my colleagues to support this bill and recognize the value of these critical student programs.

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bobby Levy". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Representative Bobby Levy  
House District 58