

Submitter: Ben Nelson
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Labor and Workplace Standards
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3881

Hello,

I am writing in support of HB 3881. I work with the Laborers' Union and have been a member for twenty five years. Apprenticeship training is one of the most important things we do as an organization. Within our program we recruit, mentor, and build the construction workforce of today and tomorrow. We are working every day to help regular Oregonians find success in a construction trades career and we work every day to pair apprentices with our partner employers.

HB 3881 offers support to this process by increasing apprenticeship utilization within the K-12 construction world, which will increase overall apprenticeship utilization numbers. Given the current requirements already in place, it feels like a natural fit to fold in the school related work. What better or more appropriate place to have training and teaching requirements (apprenticeship) than on our school projects.

HB 3881 also encourages above board behavior within the industry. Contractors building our schools and receiving our public dollars should meet basic standards. They should have a quality safety record. They should be free of wage and hour violations. And they should support our communities' shared goal of making living wage jobs available to all Oregonians, particularly those who have been traditionally underrepresented on construction job sites.

This is policy that makes sense for our State. Please support HB 3881 and thank you for your time.