

Submitter: Cathy Williams  
On Behalf Of: Aisling Truck Academy  
Committee: House Committee On Higher Education and Workforce  
Development  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3826

To the Honorable Members of the Committee,

I am writing to express my strong support for HB 3826, which seeks to provide ongoing workforce development funding for CDL training. This bill is critical in ensuring that individuals have access to the resources necessary to enter and succeed in the trucking industry—an industry that is the backbone of Oregon’s economy.

The trucking industry is facing a growing demand for qualified drivers, and CDL training programs have proven to be life-changing for countless individuals seeking stable, family-sustaining careers. With the support of workforce development funding, we have seen firsthand how people from all walks of life—veterans, single parents, career changers, and those overcoming hardships—can secure well-paying jobs and contribute meaningfully to our communities.

By establishing a workforce development program within the Higher Education Coordinating Commission and awarding grants to local workforce development boards, HB 3826 ensures that CDL training remains accessible, removing financial barriers that often prevent individuals from pursuing this career path. Additionally, the emergency declaration of this bill underscores the urgency of addressing workforce shortages in trucking. Without continued investment in training, we risk further disruptions in supply chains and economic instability, affecting businesses and consumers alike.

I urge the committee to pass HB 3826 and prioritize funding for CDL training. The benefits of this investment will not only be felt in the growth of Oregon’s workforce but also in the personal success stories of individuals who gain financial independence and security through trucking careers.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

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