



March 19, 2025

Re: Testimony in Support of HB 3881

Chair Grayber, Vice-Chairs Elmer and Muñoz, and Members of the House Labor and Workplace Standards Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of House Bill 3881. My name is Hayley Watson, and I am submitting this testimony on behalf of the Oregon State Building and Construction Trades Council.

The **Oregon State Building and Construction Trades Council (OSBCTC)** is a statewide umbrella organization comprised of 31 member unions, representing tens of thousands of Union skilled trades workers in a wide array of crafts. OSBCTC's affiliates are leaders in the nation - establishing apprenticeship programs that continue to advance quality workmanship and high performing trades workers. Together, we work for local jobs that provide family-sustaining wages, ample hours, and safe working conditions.

I am writing today in support of HB 3881, which would ensure that certain K-12 school construction projects utilizing State Treasury funds meet minimum registered apprenticeship employment standards and encourage efforts to recruit historically underrepresented workers in the industry.

School construction—today one of the largest and most consistent areas of public works investment throughout our state—has no uniform minimum standards for apprenticeship utilization or workforce participation goals, and this bill would help change that. HB 3881 will align public school construction projects with current statutory requirements that apply to state agencies, public higher-education and community college construction funded by Oregon taxpayers.

State registered construction apprenticeship programs have long provided valuable on-the-job and classroom training with clear career pathways, but there must be commitment on the part of project owners and contractors to connect apprentices with consistent work opportunities to obtain the hours required to complete their training and, in turn, advance in their careers.

Expanding and further diversifying Oregon's skilled construction workforce is a top priority for us. By prioritizing good-faith efforts for the recruitment and retention of people of color, women, and veterans, we can better ensure that public investments in school construction help make Oregon a place where these projects actively improve the lives of those who have historically been underrepresented in the industry.

Oregon's Building Trades members that we represent, the apprentices who earn while they learn, and future apprentices stand ready to proudly work on public school construction projects. We urge your support for HB 3881.



Executive Secretary: Robert Camarillo

Political & Special Projects Coordinator: Hayley Watson

Affiliated Unions

1. Boilermakers Local 242	17. OR & S. Idaho District Council of Laborers
2. Bricklayers Local 1	18. Floor Coverers Local 1236
3. Cement Masons Local 555	19. Office & Professional Employees Local 11
4. Heat and Frost Insulators Local 36	20. Operating Engineers Local 701
5. Drywall Finishers Local 101	21. Painters & Drywall Finishers Local 10
6. IBEW Local 48	22. Painters District Council No. 5
7. IBEW Local 112	23. Plasterers Local 82
8. IBEW Local 280	24. Plumbers & Steamfitters Local 290
9. IBEW Local 659	25. Plumbers & Steamfitters Local 598
10. IBEW Local 932	26. Roofers Local 49
11. Elevator Constructors Local 23	27. Sheet Metal Workers Local 16
12. Glaziers Local 740	28. Sheet Metal Workers Local 55
13. Ironworkers Local 29	29. Sprinkler Fitters UA Local 669
14. Ironworkers Shop Local 516	30. Teamsters Local 162
15. Ironworkers District Council	31. Joint Council of Teamsters No. 37
16. Laborers Local 737	

Regional Councils:

- Central Oregon Building and Construction Trades Council
- Columbia Pacific Building and Construction Trades Council
- Lane, Coos, Curry, Douglas Building Trades Council
- Pendleton Building and Construction Trades Council
- Salem Building and Construction Trades Council
- Southern Oregon Building and Construction Trades Council