

## OREGON WORKFORCE

Apr 3, 2025

HEATHER DESART OWP Chair Northwest Oregon Works

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

## **RE: HB3669 Prosperity Programs**

ERIN CARPENTER OWP Treasurer Eastern Oregon Workforce Board

BRIDGET DAZEY Clackamas Workforce Partnership

> ASHLEY ESPINOZA Lane Workforce Partnership

> > HEATHER FICHT East Cascade Works

ANDREW MCGOUGH Work Systems Inc

KIM PARKER-LLERENAS Willamette Workforce Partnership

> HEATHER STAFFORD OWP Vice-Chair Rogue Workforce Partnership

SARA STEPHENS Southwestern Oregon Workforce Investment Board On behalf of Oregon Workforce Partnership, I am pleased to express our strong support for HB3669, the Prosperity Program, as amended. This legislation represents a significant step forward in enhancing workforce development efforts throughout Oregon, addressing crucial needs such as occupational training, career coaching, job placement, and essential wraparound services.

HB3669 aligns closely with our mission to strengthen community economic development and workforce readiness. We particularly commend the program's targeted efforts to support priority populations by providing critical resources such as child care, transportation, and rental assistance. These elements are essential to ensure equitable workforce participation and sustained employment outcomes.

The explicit goals outlined in HB3669, including ensuring that at least 50% of participants are women and achieving substantial completion and employment rates, reflect a forward-thinking approach that will deliver measurable benefits to communities statewide.

Furthermore, the proposed coordination between local workforce development boards, nonprofit organizations, educational institutions, labor organizations, and businesses enhances the capacity to address specific regional workforce needs effectively. By leveraging existing relationships and building new partnerships, HB3669 will optimize the use of public funds and foster greater private-sector collaboration.

We urge your full support for HB3669 and its funding appropriation to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission. Investing in the Prosperity Program will yield significant returns in workforce readiness, economic stability, and overall community prosperity.

11575 SW PACIFIC HWY #2135 TIGARD, OR 97223

Thank you for your consideration and support.

info@oregonworkforcepartnership.org oregonworkforcepartnership.org



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SARA STEPHEIS Southwestern Oregon Workforce Investment Board Sincerely,

Executive Director/CEO



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