

## Sorenson Eric

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**From:** Michael Fowler <michael@cabdoor.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 02, 2013 3:03 PM  
**To:** Sorenson Eric  
**Subject:** Business support for workforce development investment / Ways and Means Subcommittee On Education

I am writing to convey my strong support of the \$10 million investment in workforce development, which is in the Governor's recommended budget.

As a business owner in Salem and the Board President of Job Growers Incorporated, I know the important role that public investment plays in our local economy – and specifically in workforce development.

The unemployment rate in our region is close to 9%. Despite this high availability of workers, businesses have a difficult time finding qualified candidates to fill vacancies.

The Governor's proposed budget includes support of Back to Work Oregon and Certified Work Ready Communities. These effective programs foster both business *and* workforce development in our region. This is a win-win solution that should provide a solid return to our community.

In a time of budget constraints, wise investment is more important than ever. Thank you for considering this endorsement of the Governor's proposed support for workforce development.

Sincerely,

Michael Fowler  
Board President, Job Growers Inc.

CEO & Managing Member  
Cabinet Door Service Co. LLC