



**PAUL R. HOLVEY**  
**STATE REPRESENTATIVE**  
DISTRICT 8

**OREGON HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

March 6th, 2013

Chair Michael Dembrow,  
Members of the House Committee on Higher Education and Workforce Development,

Thank you for granting me the opportunity to testify on HB 2727. This bill would establish the State Apprenticeship Education and Training Fund. I introduced this legislation because I believe Oregon needs to invest in a skilled and productive workforce. At a time when Oregon is facing increased higher education costs we need to provide other workforce and educational training opportunities for high school graduates.

The State Apprenticeship Education and Training Fund would be financed through payments of \$500 per \$1 million of public contracts entered into by contracting agencies at the time the award is made. Money from the fund would be used to make grants for career technical education relating to construction trade industry skills. Grants from this fund could be used for apprenticeship education and training programs, pre-apprenticeship and youth apprenticeship programs. These funds are intended to be used in partnerships with our public schools and charter schools such as the ACE Academy.

Construction and manufacturing jobs are at the heart of Oregon's economy, providing family wages and making up nearly 20% of Oregon's nonfarm employment with more than 230,000 jobs. To make sure Oregon remains competitive in today's global economy we must invest in apprenticeship and workforce training programs. HB 2727 is one way to do that.

I hope you view this proposed legislation as good policy and move it to the floor with a do-pass recommendation.

Respectfully,  
Paul

