

From the Desk of
Rep. Michael Dembrow

**SB 498 is Sponsored
by 87 Members
of the 2013
Oregon Legislature!**



Oregon State Association
of Electrical Workers

Support for SB 498

The Career and Technical Education Revitalization Grants Program

As businesses, trade associations, labor organizations, educators and Oregonians, we support an increased investment in the CTE Revitalization Grant Program. We value the hands-on learning experience and the career exposure students get through CTE programs and see the restoration of these programs as a critical component of workforce development and skill training.

Good for Oregon's Students. Oregon CTE participants have a significantly higher high-school graduation rate than non-CTE participants. These classes prepare students for a broad range of careers pathways and reinforce the link between education and economic opportunities.

Good for Oregon's Businesses. Restoring CTE classes will help address current and future labor shortages and skill gaps in several industries, including health care, manufacturing, agriculture, construction, and technology.

Good for Oregon's Economy. Oregon's economic health is fundamentally linked to the availability of a skilled workforce. Investing in CTE programs strengthens our workforce pipeline and will help keep more homegrown businesses in Oregon, attract new business to the state and create more high-wage jobs.

This CTE Revitalization Grant Program has proven to be an efficient and creative method for maximizing state resources for CTE education: it has helped build lasting partnerships among businesses, labor, and educators to achieve the greatest educational benefit and workforce aligned training.

The CTE Revitalization grant program is overseen by an advisory committee composed of business, labor and educators. Priority is given to applications that demonstrate:

- 1) The long-term financial sustainability of the program;
- 2) Strong partnerships with business and industry; and
- 3) A connection to high-wage and high-demand career paths.

In 2012, the program funded eight grants that benefited twenty-two schools and leveraged a total of \$796,993 from their community and business partners.

Replenishing and increasing CTE Revitalization Grant resources will result in a new wave of innovative partnerships and create long-term restorations of CTE programs statewide.

Contact: Brian Krieg
503-709-9670 brian@focuspointcom.com