
OREGON PLUMBING-HEATING-COOLING CONTRACTORS TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL 4058

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Chair Harker and Members of the House Higher Education Committee:

The Oregon State Association of Plumbing-Heating-Cooling Contractors is a trade association representing both union and open shop contracting businesses in Oregon.

The Board of Directors and Members of Oregon PHCC applaud the lofty goal of ensuring all Oregonians have the opportunity to increase their education and skills after high school. Not including Oregon's apprenticeship programs within the goals is an oversight worthy of correcting in statute.

Apprenticeship programs across the state provide on-the-job as well as classroom training in important fields vital to our future. This includes plumbers, electricians, steelworkers and pipefitters. As the average age of these trades-men and -women increases -- nearing retirement age in some cases -- it is vital that Oregon invest in ensuring apprenticeship programs remain an important and viable option for post high school training.

Oregon PHCC strongly supports House Bill 4058 and urge the Committee to give the bill an unanimous "do pass" recommendation to the full House of Representatives.

I am happy to answer any questions.

Oregon Association of Plumbing-Heating-Cooling Contractors

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