



OREGON WORKFORCE
PARTNERSHIP

Better Skills • Better Jobs

February 10, 2014

Sen. Mark Hass
900 Court St. NE, S-207
Salem, Oregon 97301

Dear Chair Hass,

On behalf of the Oregon Workforce Partnership, I am writing to urge you to support SB 1566. While many workforce system realignment efforts have been underway in recent years, this bill allows us to take these efforts to the next level of system transformation. SB 1566 provides greater accountability and oversight for the Oregon Workforce Investment Board (OWIB), including working with our members, Local Workforce Investment Boards, to increase efficiencies and eliminate duplication of workforce programs and services. Clarifying roles and responsibilities and streamlining the fragmented system under the OWIB ultimately helps all partners in the system achieve better outcomes.

This is the first, but significant, legislative step needed in order to address inefficiencies at the state level. We look forward to working with the Governor's Office and other stakeholders after this session to continue to develop ways that will make the fragmented state workforce system more efficient and effective. Ultimately, we want to focus on serving our customers rather than navigating a fragmented state system. The passage of SB 1566 is an important phase in achieving that.

Your consideration and support are much appreciated.

Sincerely,

/s/

Jordana Barclay
Executive Director