

Issue: CTE and Tech Ed teacher shortage in Oregon

Proposal: Add an additional exception to the PERS 1039 hour limit list in ORS 238.082 (5) for Tech ED and CTE Teachers

Specific language to add to the ORS 238.082 section 5 existing list: (h) *As a Technology Education teacher, CTE teacher, or CTE program coordinator within the K-12 system.*

Rational:

- Current research says that over ½ of the Tech teachers in the manufacturing and engineering classes in the Portland Metro area are either age 60 or have 25 or more years of teaching completed.
- There has been no collegiate training program for K-12 Technology Education (Shop/Industrial Arts) teachers for over 25 years in Oregon.
- The state is providing approximately \$10M in CTE revitalization money and there is a shortage of highly qualified Tech and CTE teachers.
- A PERS retired teacher in this category does not have a PERS contribution required allowing a school district to hire at a reduced district cost.
- There are unfilled jobs in the Portland Metro area.
- Some schools can only offer part time programs. The present situation is that 1039 hours is the limit for a PERS retired teacher. Sometimes schools want to offer extra CTE classes and they need part time or greater than ½ time teachers.
- The amount school districts are paying for this job category is not competitive with industry for highly skilled people. This is making it extremely difficult for K-12 school districts to attract highly qualified individuals.
- Highly qualified CTE substitute teachers virtually do not exist. There is no pool of substitute teachers to draw from.
- CTE Programs are a primary source of Dual Credit in high schools. The Dual Credit program is highly dependent on CTE teachers who are also qualified to offer college credits. Retired Tech and CTE teachers often have these credentials and understand the system.
- This could impact 100's of students who need a Tech or CTE teacher.

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Links: ORS 238.082 <http://www.oregonlaws.org/ors/238.082>