

Respectfully submitted by:

My name is Don Domes and I have over 35 years of experience in teaching STEM and CTE subjects. I also have over 25 years of experience as a Licensed Tax Consultant and a small business consultant.

I am here in support of HB 3058. The Legislature has wisely infused millions of dollars into CTE (Career Technical Education) revitalization grants over the past two sessions. I am very excited about the progress to date and about potential future CTE opportunities for our students. Part of why CTE has been so effective is because of actual work experience that the instructor has from beyond the field of education. The work experiences from beyond the four walls of the classroom help CTE teachers to reach students that may not connect with more traditional classes.

I am very concerned about the short supply of highly skilled and highly quailed CTE teachers and substitutes. In the West Metro area of Portland there are only two CTE endorsed subs for Technology and Engineering. One of those is no longer subbing. Aloha High School had a ½ time Woods instructor job that went unfilled the entire 13-14 school year! Brown Middle School has a shop that could reopen if sufficient funding and a teacher could be found. Research indicates over half of the Tech Ed teachers for the manufacturing and engineering classes in the Portland Metro area are either age 60 or already have 25 or more years of teaching experience. I spoke this fall to a community member from South Western Oregon who had helped organize thousands of dollars in tool donations to a school that ultimately closed their Industrial Arts program due to lack of being able to find a qualified instructor after the qualified instructor retired.

About a month ago I was talking to the owner of a machine shop and he told me that if someone offered him a million dollar contract to build parts he would turn it down because he cannot find enough trained operators. Representatives of the metals industry in Washington County asked me to meet with them last spring. I shared with them that in the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> largest school districts in Oregon, which are located in Washington County, there are 9 high schools. Out of the 9 high schools there are only 1 and half metal shops still engaging students in classes. While working on some research for the Industrial and Engineering Pathway in Washington County I found that county High Schools graduate about 7,000 seniors per year. That means in 10 years they would graduate 70,000 students. I then asked how many jobs there would be in the next 10 years in the Industrial and Engineering Pathway? We have not been able to fully verify the projections, but the best estimate is close to 35,000 jobs. That means 1 out of every 2 students in Washington County could get a living wage job in the Industrial and Engineering Pathway!!! We don't have enough CTE teachers in that pathway to give every student even 2 years of course opportunities out of their four years of high school.

HB 3058 does not solve the shortage. It empowers a bridge that could help 1000's of students with the opportunity to take a CTE class. We need long term answers such as those proposed in HB 2624 sponsored by Rep. Reardon. Establishing teacher training programs in CTE will take time to implement. HB 3058 empowers a bridge by adding retired CTE teachers to the PERS 1039 hour exception list. The bill as written has a June 30, 2018 sunset. The revenue impact of HB 3058 is zero. Hiring a PERS retired CTE teacher actually costs school districts less because they do not make PERS contributions for those who have retired under PERS. Part of the scary thing for a retired PERS person is that if they exceed the 1039 hour rule they have to pay back all of their PERS earnings and re-retire. HB 3058 would take that danger off the table for retired CTE teachers.

Thank You for this opportunity to speak with you.