



Sheet Metal Contractors Association



Plumbing and Mechanical Contractors Association



Sheet Metal Workers Local #16



Oregon State Association of Electrical Workers

- IBEW 48
- IBEW 89
- IBEW 112
- IBEW 125
- IBEW 280
- IBEW 659
- IBEW 932



UA Plumbers and Steamfitters Local #290

3/30/15

TO: Senate Finance & Revenue Committee

RE: SUPPORT FOR SB 129 WITH -1 AMENDMENT

Dear Senators:

The contractors of SMACNA, members of Sheet Metal Workers Local 16, the contractors of PMCA, the members of UA 290 Plumbers and Steamfitters and the members of the Oregon State Association of Electrical Workers (IBEW) urge you to pass SB 129 with the -1 amendment.

A key component in the amendment provides for a dedicated revenue source for K-12 CTE programs.

The CTE grant program the legislature launched 4 years ago is having a positive impact – but the grants are one time only for revitalizing programs – not for ongoing costs to run the programs. And the grant program relies on the Legislature making General Fund appropriations to it – in good years and lean years.

Parents, teachers and administrators throughout the state point to the urgent need to find a stable dedicated revenue source to provide ongoing funding for CTE programs – so once they get a program revitalized, or start a new one, they will be able to maintain it – and not cut it the next time the economy takes a downturn.

The construction industry and many others such as automotive, manufacturing, and health care are in need of additional new employees who have CTE skills and training. And that need will continue to grow as our current workforce ages. Meanwhile our graduation rate is low and a growing number of young people do not even have basic job skills. For all of Oregon to prosper – we need to get our CTE programs back and revitalized to 21<sup>st</sup> Century standards. This is a workforce issue that must be addressed.

**WE URGE YOUR SUPPORT FOR DEDICATED FUNDING FOR CTE!**

Please Support SB 129 with the -1 amendment.

Submitted by: Brian Krieg