



# Clatsop Community College

Office of the President

To: Members of the Ways and Means Subcommittee on Capital Construction

From: Christopher Breitmeyer, President Clatsop Community College

Re: SB 5505

Date: May 12th, 2017

I am writing you to ask for your support in funding the CCC capital request to expand and improve our Maritime Sciences Building built in 1996. The project the addition of a second doubling our square footage to 26,400 sq. ft. of instructional space also allowing us to ensure the classrooms and labs are ready to meet the technology needs of educating Mariners in 2020 and beyond. The technology and design of 1996 is not relevant to today's educational needs. The radar and simulation tools needed to educate the mariners of today require highly specialized spaces and infrastructure.

Within the maritime industry, there is an acute need for a trained workforce. With the College housing Oregon's only Maritime Science program, this translates to more students seeking training at the Maritime and Environmental Research Training Station (MERTS) campus. According to the United States Maritime Administration (MARAD), the US fleet will be short 125,000 licensed mariners by 2025. The existing workforce is faced with large amounts of new required training and a shortage of available suppliers of said training. In addition, there will be many military-trained individuals who will be seeking to complete training for the merchant marine through the military to mariner program endorsed by the US Congress.

As a result, the CCC Maritime Science Department will need to add programs and add seats to accommodate more students. As the Maritime College in Oregon we play a critical role in ensuring the economic vitality that shipping brings to our state. We are currently working with both the Bar and River pilots to address their training needs to ensure they can continue to ensure the efficient flow of goods up and down the Columbia River. This requires the acquisition of new bridge simulators that we hope to partner with both of these groups to purchase. Adding these simulators will tax our already strained infrastructure and we might be in the unenviable position of not being able to serve all those who need training. By funding this capital request, you are funding the creation of high wage jobs that bring both commerce and revenue into the state. Graduates of the Maritime Science Program at Clatsop Community College can expect starting wages of \$60,000 - \$80,000.

I want to thank you for your past support. At CCC we have benefited greatly from capital requests, our latest project Patriot Hall will open in June giving us the capability to serve our community with health and wellness opportunities that will impact a wide sector of citizens in Clatsop County. I am hopeful that you will grant our request.

Sincerely



Christopher Breitmeyer  
President Clatsop Community College