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Stephanie O'Connor
Manager, Human Resources

Attn: Joint Ways and Means Committee

Subj: Letter of Support - HB 5505 funding for Linn-Benton Community College

Dear Grant Review Committee;

Allegheny Technologies Incorporated (ATI) supports the request from Linn-Benton Community College (LBCC) for \$7.5m in capital construction funds. LBCC is commitment to meeting the workforce needs of our region. Our region has more than 1,000 jobs to fill in the coming five years in family-wage technical positions.

To meet the workforce demands in the Mid-Willamette Valley, LBCC needs to expand and upgrade its Career Technical Education (CTE) offerings; in Welding, Machine Tool, Non-destructive testing, and Advanced Manufacturing, (Mechatronics), on the Albany campus.

The voters in Linn and Benton counties have shown their support for LBCC through approval of a General Obligation bond, which provides the matching funds that are required. In addition, the City of Albany is providing \$2.9M for equipment for these CTE programs, and local industry is working to assist with additional equipment.

ATI has four manufacturing facilities in Oregon that produce an expanded line of titanium, zirconium, hafnium and niobium specialty metal products and finished parts that supply critical applications in the Aerospace, Defense, Energy, Medical, Oil & Gas, Chemical Processing and Industrial markets. ATI's fully integrated capabilities from melt to finished cast and machined components in Oregon make ATI a critical link in the supply chain for most markets served.

One of ATI's key strategic principles is to attract, develop and create opportunities for talented people and one of the ways we meet this strategic objective is by actively engaging with LBCC. ATI has valued our partnership with LBCC for many years and readily supports their CTE initiatives.

ATI has supported LBCC's CTE programs in the following ways:

- Helping to define training needs for the target occupations, including the skills that need to be taught in CTE programs to train skilled, competent workers in the areas of:
 - Welding
 - Non-destructive testing
 - Machinists
 - Industrial Machinery Mechanics
 - Computer-Controlled Machine Tool Operators, Metal and Plastic
 - Electrical & Electronics Repairers, Commercial and Industrial Equipment
 - Electrical & Electronics Engineering Technicians Numerical Tool and Process Control Programmers

- Providing approximately \$1M to LBCC annually to be distributed as wages for students who participate in cooperative work experience programs with ATI.
- Continually partnering with LBCC, Local High Schools, the Albany Area Chamber of Commerce Pipeline Program and Government to help fill the anticipated high-skilled, high-wage jobs within our company and manufacturing sector.

ATI hopes LBCC's request for \$7.5m in capital construction funds will be granted; investing in LBCC is critical to meet the workforce needs of industry and to strengthen Oregon's economy

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Stephanie O'Connor', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Stephanie O'Connor
Manager, Human Resources