

JANEEN SOLLMAN
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
DISTRICT 30



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

May 23, 2017

Chair Roblan
Members of the Senate Education Committee
State Capitol | HR C

Dear Chair Roblan,

I am writing today to urge your support on HB 3437. This bill would integrate & consolidate the Oregon Talent Council with the Oregon Workforce Investment Board to better streamline & identify needs in our skilled workforce.

When people talk about higher education I feel like we have steered away from the multiple pathways approach and have really focused on just one, the college route. This has in-turn given our students an unruly amount of student debt, and lack of direction. While at the same time, putting our Oregon businesses in a tough situation because they don't have enough homegrown skilled workers to hire, which forces them to either go out of state or have a slower rate of production.

By establishing this group, and requiring a Talent Development Plan for the key industries and occupations, we would be returning to a journey with multiple pathways. One where you could go to school for a degree, or go to a trade school for a high demand job and have a very strong living wage job in just a couple of years.

These plans are critical and formidable for our future, but combined they become transformational. I urge your support on this bill so that we can start to identify the industries that are in-need of applied skills and begin to develop curriculum & programs to get our kids streamlined into the workforce.

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Janeen Sollman". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Janeen Sollman
State Representative
House District 30