

HB 2548 – Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) Program

Problem:

Employers frequently communicate to legislators a need for a workforce prepared the realities and expectations in the workplace. As part of those expectations, soft skills are a vital component of a more prepared workforce. Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA), and other Career and Technical Student Organizations (CTSO), are great vehicles to equip Oregon's students with the soft skills that Oregon's economy and workforce demand. Through connections to internships, strong focus on entrepreneurship, and private sector partnerships, FBLA is providing students with real experience that prepare them for success in academics and career. **Unfortunately, nearly 60% of high schools in Oregon that have approved Business Management & Administration programs, do not have FBLA chapters to provide crucial co-curricular education to the learning happening in the classroom.**

Solution:

With renewed focus on graduation retention and career and technical education through the passage of Measure 98, the time is ripe to provide necessary financial resources that allow students to more equitably have access to the benefits of FBLA. HB 2548 calls for making support available through Measure 98 funding to support expansion of FBLA chapters. Supported expansion will help to ensure that, regardless of a student's zip code, they will have access to the career preparation and development of soft skills that are desperately needed in Oregon's workforce.

Notes:

FBLA is nationally affiliated with:

- U.S. Department of Education
- Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE)
- National Association of Secondary School Principals
- National Business Education Association
- National Research for Center for Career and Technical Education

Please reach out to Taylor Sarman in Rep. Doherty's Office (503.986.1435) or Marc Miller in Rep. Hack's Office (503.986.1419) if you have any questions.