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Date: Feb 6th, 2019
To: The Senate Committee on Education
From: John Wykoff, Deputy Director OCCA
Subject: Senate Bill 3

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When the Senate Education Committee heard Senate Bill 3 earlier this month, the board of the Oregon Community College Association (OCCA) had not yet had the opportunity to fully discuss the legislation, and I testified the bill was still under review. Since that time, we have concluded those discussions.

On Feb 1st the OCCA board voted unanimously to support SB 3, which would allow community colleges to offer applied baccalaureate programs. Currently state law prohibits community college from offering bachelor's degrees of any kind.

Applied baccalaureate degrees integrate applied associate degrees with course work into a four-year degree giving students a pathway into higher level work in their field. Applied baccalaureate degrees cover areas such as:

- Data Analytics
- Information Technology
- Diesel Technology
- Dental Hygiene
- Advanced Manufacturing
- Sustainable Practices
- Digital Marketing
- And many other applied science and technical fields.

Applied baccalaureate degrees offered by community colleges can provide a four-year pathway in rural communities where no other pathways exist and in more urban areas where pathways may exist but with limited capacity. Applied baccalaureate degrees are also generally niche programs that serve a local workforce need and do not duplicate existing four-year university programs.

In summary, the Oregon Community College Association supports SB 3 and we urge the committee to support it was well.

CC: Senate President Peter Courtney