

Submitter: Krista Nieraeth  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: House Committee On Education  
Measure: HB2189

Dear Education Committee Members:

My name is Krista Nieraeth and I am the K - 12 principal in the Port Orford - Langlois School District, a rural and remote school district on the Southern Oregon Coast. I am in support HB 2189 as it helps districts, such as mine, be able to find CTE teacher candidates to work in rural districts and not have to worry about how to have them fulfill the same requirements for licensure as those CTE teacher candidates in areas where 1) more resources for teacher education are readily available; 2) the salaries for teachers are higher; 3) the amount of different classes taught are less. Smaller districts, especially in rural areas, inherently are not able to provide as many teacher education resources or often a salary scale comparable to those districts in more populous areas. CTE teachers in smaller districts are also asked to teach more preps than CTE teachers in larger districts. For example, the CTE teacher in my district teaches high school welding, high school woodshop, middle school woodshop, CAD, along with one other elective course in animal science, to help fit the needs of our students. In bigger districts, you will find a welding teacher AND a wood shop teacher. Smaller districts such as mine must be able to provide incentives to attract the same level of skill/talent as those more populous districts. I am not a proponent of NOT having licensure requirements and while there already is a reduced requirement for CTE teachers in terms of degrees (CTE teachers need to only have associates degree or equivalent), they still must take other classes to fulfill the licensure requirements. Reducing these classes will greatly decrease the already high work load of those CTE teachers in rural areas.

Thanks,  
Krista Nieraeth, M.Ed.