

Submitter: Maverick Brown

On behalf of: Columbia Gorge Community College (Student)

Committee: House Committee On Higher Education

Measure: SB482

Good afternoon, House Committee, my name is Maverick Brown. I am currently a student at Columbia Gorge Community College with their Aviation Maintenance Program. I am here to provide comment on SB 482 and why I think Aircraft Maintenance is better taught in a facility on an airport.

I believe that the most important reason for us to move to the airport from our current facility that is in a warehouse in The Dalles Port district is safety. While yes we do practice safe working conditions at our current location we are not being immersed in every detail of safety that only comes from being at an active airport. For example we would be working in an active aircraft movement zone, meaning working around actively moving aircraft, working with aviation fuel, being required to wear ear protection, and more reasons that I could go into. If we are permitted to move our learning over there it will be immensely beneficial to us and any further classes after us to be in that environment.

That brings me to my next point. Learning environment, in our current place of learning we do not have easy access to other professionals in the aircraft maintenance field and the aviation field in general. And as one of my peers has said to me in the past, networking in this industry is key. If this bill is passed and we get moved to the airport, us students will be able to network with other members of the aviation field and be exposed to other people in that field. This would allow for us to learn from osmosis by being exposed to others in the field, and the culture of the aviation world. The world and culture that we students will be going to work in.

This brings me to my final point. If this bill is passed it will allow CGCC to have room to grow their Aviation Maintenance Program to help fill the huge gap that was recently created in the Aviation Maintenance field due to covid and other factors.

In conclusion, I feel that this bill should be passed to let CGCC's Aviation Maintenance Program be moved to DLS Airport and still receive full-time equivalency is: To help foster an even more safe learning environment, Exposure to the work environment and others from the aviation industry, and room to grow the program for the future.