

February 3, 2026

Senate Committee on Commerce and General Government  
900 Court Street NE  
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Chair Meek and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to encourage your support for Senate Bill 1512: Prosperity Programs. Investments in jobs and career pathways are critical for a prosperous local economy. This bill will build on the success of Prosperity 10,000, which has achieved significant success throughout the state.

Gresham residents have benefitted directly from funds through programming at Mt. Hood Community College, specifically the Mechatronics and Elevate Careers Semiconductor Manufacturing Training programs. These programs have graduated hundreds of students with the skills to work in a wide array of industries offering family wage jobs and career pathways with opportunities for growth.

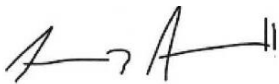
**Prosperity Programs are a revenue-generating strategy, not an expense.** The state's original \$35 million investment in P10K has generated a \$149.1 million return on investment over two years. Renewed investment translates to additional tax revenue for the state and continued reduction in social service costs.

**Prosperity Programs reach people often left behind by traditional systems**—women, people of color, veterans, rural residents, Oregonians with disabilities, and neighbors navigating barriers like housing instability or justice involvement. Participants aren't just completing training; they're landing family-wage jobs averaging \$22.73/hour, with most working full-time and earning more than Oregon's Self-Sufficiency Standard.

**Prosperity Programs are set up to help your constituents directly.** Gresham's workforce development board, Worksystems, Inc., has tailored services to meet our community needs including career coaching, skills training, wraparound supports, and paid work experiences.

SB 1512 strengthens the existing Prosperity Program infrastructure by expanding goals, centering equitable access, and setting clear benchmarks for completion and employment while establishing standards that ensure fair wages and strong training plans for participants. I encourage your support for SB 1512 to ensure that there is sustained funding to support access to family wage jobs and to build Oregon's future workforce pipeline.

Sincerely,



Travis Stovall  
Mayor of Gresham