

February 4, 2026

Dear Oregon Legislators,

I am writing to express my strong support for continued funding for Prosperity Programs, including SB 1512. These investments are essential to workforce resilience and sustained access to employment services in rural and frontier communities across Oregon.

When Oregon invests in jobs, it strengthens families, communities, and the state's economy. *Prosperity 10,000* has demonstrated that workforce funding isn't a cost — it's a return-generating investment.

The ROI is strong:

- For every \$1 invested, Oregon gets \$2.98 back
- Average participant wages are \$22.73 per hour
- 72 percent of employed participants are working full time
- Workforce investments generate new tax revenue while reducing reliance on public benefits

The situation is urgent:

Funding for *Prosperity 10,000* expires June 30, 2026. Without continued investment, Oregon risks losing the infrastructure, partnerships, and proven results this initiative has built.

I am urging the Legislature to invest in sustaining *Prosperity 10,000* and protecting Oregon's workforce and economic momentum.

Thank you for your commitment to helping Oregonians prepare for and succeed in quality jobs.

Sincerely,

Nickelle Haffey

Nickelle Haffey
Project Coordinator, EC Works