

Written Testimony-SB 5534

May 8, 2021

To: Co-Chairs & Members of the Committee

Re: Lottery bond request to support the development of CTEC West- Sheridan School District

Greetings,

I am writing to support the CTEC West Project- Sheridan School District, supported by Representative David Gomberg. As a long time resident, parent and CTE educator in Yamhill County I can attest first hand to the benefits of career technical education. CTE provides students with the academic and technical skills, knowledge, and training necessary to succeed in future careers. In addition CTE prepares learners for the world of work by introducing them to workplace competencies, makes academic content accessible to students by providing it in a hands-on context. According to Oregon Department of Education high school graduation rates for CTE concentrators is about 90%-15 percentage points higher than the national average.

Sheridan School District has the opportunity to purchase a vacant manufacturing facility across the street from Sheridan High School and transform it into a state of the art career and technology (CTE) facility. This project will focus on economic and community revitalization and benefit the rural region of the West Willamette Valley. The proposed career pathways for CTEC West will be driven by regional and economic employment data include but not limited to: Ag Business, Hospitality and Tourism, Manufacturing and Residential Construction. CTEC West will provide students with the competitive edge for high-wage and high demand jobs upon graduation.

I urge you to support SB 5534 and the request of 1.9 million in state lottery bonds to aid in the development of CTEC West located in Sheridan Oregon.

Thank you for your time and for your service to the State of Oregon.

Sincerely,

Julia Holsti
Business/Technology Teacher
Sheridan High School