



Ohio House of Representatives Higher
Education and Workforce Development Committee
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Proponent Testimony / HB 166
Testimony of Joyce L. Malainy, Ed.D., Superintendent, Career and Technology Education
Centers of Licking County (C-TEC)

Good morning. My name is Joyce Malainy, and I am the Superintendent of the Career and Technology Education Centers of Licking County (C-TEC). I am presenting testimony on behalf of C-TEC, Lauren Massie our OTC director and the Ohio Association of Career Technical Superintendents (“OACTS”). C-TEC operates a very robust Ohio Technical Center, serving approximately 3,000 students each year – nearly 600 in 15 full-time programs, 300 in ASPIRE/ESOL, 100 continuing education classes, and 2,000 in customized training. For FY17, C-TEC had a 90% graduation rate, 96% job placement/continuing education rate, and 85% credential attainment rate (based on FY17 ODHE data for our 15 full-time programs).

What is customized training? Through C-TEC’s team of industry experts, we assist businesses in identifying training needs by looking at the skill level of current employees, identifying skill and knowledge gaps and planning the necessary training. Training is customized with curriculum specific to equipment, business processes and product requirements. High-quality training is developed quickly, scheduled around production, and delivered at the business site or at C-TEC 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Through our customized training, we serve approximately 60 business and industry partners in our region, including (to name only a few), Owens Corning, Kaiser Aluminum, and Ariel Corporation—primarily with a focus on electrical and mechanical apprenticeship programs.

Additionally, we customize training to meet broader needs. For example, as recent as last week, in conjunction with our local chamber, we offered electrical safety/ Arc Flash training and educated over 40 participants representing 13 local businesses. We also recently customized a training for JobsOhio staff to help them understand a field of great need: multi-craft maintenance technician. This hands-on training, held at C-TEC, introduced JobsOhio staff to the skills needed for PLC’s, Robotics and Machining.

So while OTCs are very successfully and actively involved in workforce development, by definition they are not recognized as an institution of higher education in Ohio. I want to share C-TEC’s experience with the Rapids grant. OTCs must “partner” with community colleges for the purchase of equipment to facilitate training in areas of high need. When they engage in this partnership, OTCs are at the mercy of the community college for budget, timeline and implementation. Equipment is owned by the community college even if housed on an OTC campus. In FY18, C-TEC received only 13% of equipment funds that our partner community

college applied for; although more training is provided in the region by C-TEC. OTC recognition as an institution of higher education could open the doors to that equipment, allowing OTCs to be “lead applicants” for the RAPID grant and eliminating the necessity to partner with other schools. Currently there is not a mechanism to purchase equipment except through general fund and a small allocation through the federal Perkins grant (no state support).

One other issue that this language will remedy has to do with OTC eligibility for the Ohio College Opportunity Grant (“OCOG”)--opening this door could also be of tremendous benefit to Adult learners in Ohio. The Ohio Department of Higher Education administers the OCOG program, which provides grant money to Ohio students who demonstrate the highest levels of financial need as determined by the [Free Application for Federal Student Aid \(FAFSA\)](#). Eligible students are enrolled at Ohio public colleges or universities, Ohio private, non-profit colleges or universities, and Ohio private, for-profit institutions. Access to OCOG for students attending OTCs will help support the workforce needs of the state by “filling in the gap” of financial aid for students who are now only eligible for Pell grant funding. Currently students attending OTCs are eligible for Federal ‘need based’ financial aid, but not state need based aid. Roughly 94 million dollars is allocated as a line item in OCOG for the State (State’s Pell for need-based financial aid). This is State tax payer dollars for students who attend public and private 2 and 4 year but not currently for students who want to attend OTC’s.

Providing access to state aid for students who attend OTC’s is truly a win for students. While generally speaking, OTC certificate programs are more reasonable in cost, they are still relatively expensive to most, and many students still need grants or loans to attend (our most expensive program is that of “power lineman,” which costs \$12,660 for a 900 hour program, and welding at \$11,700.00 for 900 hours). OTC recognition and access to state grant opportunities will enhance career-technical education statewide and will support the state’s robust workforce development initiatives.

I appreciate your time, and will be happy to answer questions.