



May 29, 2019

Chairman Zeltwanger, Vice Chairwoman Powell, Ranking Member Sobecki, and members of the House Economic and Workforce Development Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony on behalf of Marion Technical College on House Bill 4.

House Bill 4, sponsored by Representatives Richardson and Robinson, would utilize the Governor's Office of Workforce Transformation to serve as a "one-stop-shop" for employers needing assistance establishing industry-recognized credentials and certificates, or connecting with existing resources in their community.

Employers often have a good sense of the credentials their employees will need to stay current in their field, but may not be familiar with how to offer meaningful training that results in an earned credential or certificate. Credentials and continuing education are increasingly important resources for employers to ensure their workforce is highly skilled and able to succeed in a competitive marketplace. Local employers in Marion, like Wilson Bohannon and RobotWorx, could utilize a service like this to continue to ensure they have the trained workforce they need to stay globally competitive.

MTC is supportive of House Bill 4 in its anticipated substitute bill form, which would confirm that while the Office of Workforce Transformation will partner with the Ohio Department of Education and the Ohio Department of Higher Education, OWT will not be responsible for approving curriculum, standards, or materials for any industry-recognized credential. Rather OWT will serve as a branch between employers and regional educational resources to ensure industry needs can be met to best serve workforce needs.

While this bill will assist existing employers, new businesses will also be able to access this expanded resource through OWT, familiarizing them with local educational resources and creating a simple process to navigate.

Thank you again for the opportunity to share MTC's support of House Bill 4 and prospective changes for the substitute bill.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ryan McCall".

Ryan McCall, Ph.D.  
President, Marion Technical College