

Testimony on House Bill 64 Career and Technical Education

Tommi Wright, Student

Chairman Cupp and Members of the Committee:

1. My name is Tommi Wright and I am a Junior Welding student from Ripley Union Lewis Huntington Local Schools at Southern Hills CTC.
2. I feel that this would give me more options than simply obtaining a diploma through my HS experience. I knew that through the Career Center I would be able to obtain a CTE certification as well as an AWS industry credential. I had never attempted to weld prior to attending the Career Center, but the process interested me and I knew there were jobs and would continue to be jobs in that field. As a student I have learned that my preferred learning style is “hands-on” and that I would much rather be doing as opposed to just observing. The welding program allows me to put to practice what I learn in the classroom. From my earlier HS CTE experiences through FFA and FCCLA I have become very comfortable with public speaking.
3. My future plans include, obtaining an AWS credential as a senior next year. Then possibly using that credential to become employed as a pipe-fitter for various power plants across the nation. Obtaining the AWS credential will make me more employable in this field.
4. I am in Columbus today for an event in the Statehouse Atrium showcasing a welding project we are working on. I wanted this committee to know that CTE is valuable education and training and if you would like to learn more about it, please feel free to visit us in the Atrium from 9:30 am to 2pm. I am glad to answer any questions you may have.