

Ohio Senate
Finance Subcommittee on Primary and Secondary Education
House Bill 49, State Budget

Testimony of Carrie Scheiderer
Central Region Tech Prep Consultant

May 15, 2017

Chairman Hite, Vice Chairman Sykes and Members of the Committee, My name is Carrie Scheiderer and I serve as the Central Region Tech Prep Consultant at Central Ohio Technical College located in Newark, Ohio. I also serve on the Ohio Career-Technical Administrators (OCTA) Executive Board. I appreciate this opportunity to testify on HB 49, the State of Ohio Biennial Budget bill.

I have served in my current role since 2011 as Central Region Tech Prep Consultant. During that time I've worked closely to build bridges and opportunities for career-tech students in my area and across the state. As a Tech Prep Consultant, we are truly connecting secondary and post-secondary institutions in Ohio to create a multitude of opportunities for the state's Career-Tech students.

Last week during this subcommittee's hearing, three career center directors and two superintendents shared with you how we impact students and districts statewide. I'd like to share how we directly benefit students on a day-to-day basis. Daily we work to find and build opportunities for CTE students. My office is located on Central Ohio Technical College's campus, as you can see on the attached Tech Prep Regional Contacts document and map, but I work with multiple career centers and colleges to ensure that students have pathways from their

specific career center programs into not only my college and others across the state, but also adult education, apprenticeship, and workforce opportunities. We are an active network of statewide coordinators that help create connections for Ohio's Career-Tech students. We also ensure that students, parents, teachers, administrators, and counselors know and understand all of the options that are available. There are so many college credit options and pathways available to students, but if they don't know about them and can't access them, they are useless. Daily, I receive calls and emails from career center staff asking me to explain the different college credit options and workforce development opportunities for students, and to come train their staff and share these opportunities with their students.

Last year alone, Tech Prep managed over 1500 college credit agreements. There is a lot of work that goes into creating these agreements and bringing together secondary and post-secondary faculty to review high school and college courses. We coordinate all of this work and we also provide assistance to students who are accessing their credit. Daily I sit down with teachers and administrators at career centers and college faculty and deans to help create college credit and in-demand pathways for students. We are truly the go-to coordinators across the state to help bridge the gap for students between secondary, post-secondary, adult, apprenticeship and workforce options. If our funding is decreased and eliminated, this network will be gone. Secondary and post-secondary schools don't have the time or resources to create these networks and relationships on their own as you heard in last week's testimony from some of our career center directors. They depend on us daily for this work and support.

In my role, I work across several regions to create career pathways, specifically the Central and Southeast Regions. Since we have college locations in both areas, I'm able to provide many options for students around the regions. As Tech Prep Consultants we understand secondary

education, post-secondary education, apprenticeships, and workforce demands. We are able to help bridge the gap between all of these entities and provide understanding between all partners to benefit students. In the past, a lot of colleges, adult education centers, and secondary career-tech centers haven't worked together to benefit students because they didn't understand what each entity provided. We are able to help all of these partners come together to create options that benefit students and save them time and money. We accomplish this by promoting partnerships and facilitating one-on-one meetings and professional development.

As I talk with career-tech educators from other states, they look to states like ours for direction and guidance. *They don't have statewide networks in place like Ohio does through our network of Tech Prep centers.* Their secondary and post-secondary, apprenticeship, and workforce systems are not joined together like ours through our valuable networks of Tech Prep Consultants. It's difficult for their secondary career centers to find partnerships with post-secondary partners. If our funding is decreased or eliminated, Ohio will be taking a step back. These networks will disappear and will negatively impact the students of Ohio.

While I have discussed career technical education with you today, please be aware that funding for Tech Prep is not included in the CTE funding. It is a stand-a-lone item in Section 265.200 under Career Technical Education Enhancements on lines 97484 through 97493.

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee now is not the time to cut career technical education in Ohio and specifically the networks we have created and maintained for years. We respectfully request that funding for Tech Prep be restored in the coming biennial budget under the Tech Prep Expansion Grant line item.

Thank you for your consideration and I am happy take answer any questions you may have about career technical education and the valuable role of Tech Prep.

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Ohio Tech Prep Mission

To increase student access to quality career-technical education pathways by connecting secondary and postsecondary partners and leading the development of state-approved Programs of Study

Ohio College Tech Prep Regional Centers

Six Ohio College Tech Prep Regional Centers serve as the liaison to Ohio's 91 career-technical planning districts, 23 community colleges and 14 universities to ensure high-quality career-technical education programs for students. The Regional Centers work with partners to increase student access to quality career-technical education pathways that provide opportunities to earn college credit while in high school.

Regional Centers are jointly managed by the Ohio Department of Higher Education and the Ohio Department of Education's Office of Career-Technical Education.

Northwest Tech Prep Regional Center
techprepnwo.org

Southwest Tech Prep Regional Center
www.techprepswohio.org

Central Tech Prep Regional Center
www.techprepcentral.org

Northeast Tech Prep Regional Center
www.techprepnecenter.com

East Central Tech Prep Regional Center
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Southeast Tech Prep Regional Center
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