

## FINANCE COMMITTEE

## WITNESS FORM

COMMITTEE DATE: 5/23/19

NAME: Richard A. Rathburn, Jr.

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ORGANIZATION REPRESENTING: TDDS Technical Institute

TESTIFYING ON BILL NUMBER: Sub. H.B. 166

**TESTIMONY TYPE: WRITTEN** 

**TESTIFYING AS: PROPONENT** 

## FOR BUDGET TESTIMONY ONLY:

**TESTIMONY TOPIC: HIGHER EDUCATION** 

TESTIFYING ON BUDGET ITEM(S): OhioMeansJobs Workforce Development Revolu

DID YOU TESTIFY IN A SENATE SUBCOMMITTEE? NO

ARE YOU A REGISTERED LOBBYIST? NO

SPECIAL REQUESTS: May 17, 2019 The Office of the Ohio Treasurer of State 30 East Brog

- SUBMIT -

Written testimony is a public record and may be posted on the Ohio Senate's website.



May 17, 2019

The Office of the Ohio Treasurer of State 30 East Broad Street, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor Columbus, Ohio 43215

Re: Retaining the OhioMeansJobs Workforce Development Revolving Loan Fund Program

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of the students and staff at TDDS Technical Institute as well as our employer partners, we respectfully request The Office of the Ohio Treasurer of State to continue the OhioMeansJobs Workforce Development Revolving Student Loan Fund Program at the funding levels previously allocated.

This program directly and indirectly benefits all Ohio residents by allowing resident students to utilize the financial aid assistance to attend school, get a quality education and obtain employment in a "High-Demand" career. Ohio residents also gain the benefit by our graduates going to work in a higher-paying capacity as they inject more payroll and income taxes back into our local and state economies.

Our students have barriers to career education due to the lack of financial aid access and this program helps those students achieve their educational and employment goals. If the individual does not have access to this financial aid assistance program to attend our career courses of study, they are forced to remain in lower-paying, unskilled occupations, which in return, provide less tax revenue for our local and state governments.

The State's self-funding student loan program is very forward-thinking and if allowed to continue and given the time to develop and be utilized to its full potential, will serve Ohioans by continually re-investing into the program itself as well as providing an improved tax generation stream.

This new and innovative student loan program has taken an extensive amount of effort to plan out, develop system, invest financially and implement. It needs a chance to prove its positive impact and to let the people of Ohio take advantage of the financial and educational opportunities this student loan program allows.

Again, we respectfully ask for The Office of the Treasurer of Ohio to retain this student loan program and let it work for all Ohioans.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Richard A. Rathburn, Jr., CEO/Owner

**TDDS Technical Institute**