

Lane Community College
4000 East 30th Avenue
Eugene, Oregon 97405

Board of Education
February 16, 2022

RESOLUTION NO. 665

Resolution to Support Senate Bill 1545 Future Ready Oregon 2022

WHEREAS, Oregon entered the decade with a declared need of 300,000 additional postsecondary credentials to prepare adult workers for a future of increasingly complex work;

WHEREAS, the disruption created by the pandemic has exacerbated the workforce crisis, as well as highlighted significant disparities in how our workforce system serves Oregon's communities of color;

WHEREAS, similar to prior recessions, Black, Indigenous, Latino/a/x, and other people of color (BIPOC), people with low incomes, and rural Oregonians have been impacted the hardest;

WHEREAS, barriers to job readiness and career advancement persist, which is made more difficult by a workforce system that is often siloed, inefficient, and difficult to navigate;

WHEREAS, now is the time for Oregon to invest in a workforce system that is collaborative, meets people where they are, and customizes solutions to meet the unique needs of individuals by building on existing program successes while advancing transformational change;

WHEREAS, the Oregon Legislature is currently considering Senate Bill 1545, known as Future Ready Oregon 2022, which proposes to advance Oregon's economic competitiveness while ensuring equitable opportunities for a diverse workforce;

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 1545 proposes a \$200 million investment in Oregon's workforce system utilizing existing infrastructure to expedite short-term solutions, while making investments that aim to address inequities in the workforce system;

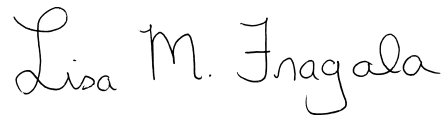
WHEREAS, investments would focus on three key sectors—healthcare, manufacturing, and construction—which provide short-term pathways to meaningful employment, higher earning potential, and opportunities for economic mobility;

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 1545 proposes to strengthen investments in programs that successfully provide career-connected learning opportunities for historically underserved communities, including \$17 million for community college career pathways programs, a statewide initiative with a nearly two-decade track record of successfully fast-tracking Oregonians into family-wage careers;

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 1545 would also invest \$10 million to support credit for prior learning, providing grants to community colleges and public universities that work toward increasing opportunities for students from priority populations to receive academic credit for prior experience or skills gained outside of traditional higher education institutions that counts toward a certificate or credential that provides a pathway to employment or career advancement;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Lane Community College Board of Education affirms its support of Senate Bill 554, and we thank Oregon lawmakers for supporting this pro-education, pro-workforce legislation.

Adopted by the Lane Community College Board of Education this 16th day of February, 2022.



Lisa Fragala, Board Chair

ATTEST:



Margaret Hamilton, President