



NEWS

Oregon Legislature - House Democratic Caucus

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Oregon Legislature approves strategic investments in education, workforce development

HB4116, HB 4117 and SB1527 will invest in students, spur job growth for Oregonians

SALEM – The Oregon State Legislature approved three key initiatives this week to invest in Oregon's students and spur job growth throughout the state.

Today the Oregon Senate gave final legislative approval to the Aspiration to College bill, HB 4116, which will provide \$750,000 for a competitive grant to develop scholarship programs and support services to help more Oregonians enroll in community colleges and make progress toward a degree or certificate.

The Senate also unanimously passed HB 4117 today, which appropriates \$500,000 to fund summer programs that will add at least 60 hours of learning time for over 5,000 of Oregon's most vulnerable K-12 students.

SB 1527, which won final legislative approval in the Oregon House yesterday, establishes a retraining pilot program tailored to unemployed and underemployed engineers to address the skills gap in Oregon's developing bioscience industries.

"The smartest investments we can make are our investments in education," said Rep. Joe Gallegos (D – Hillsboro). "These bills are critical to educate our local workforce, strengthen this state's economy, and put Oregonians back to work."

HB 4116, HB 4117, and SB 1527 now move to the governor for his approval.

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