



PRESS RELEASE

REP. JEFF REARDON
STATE REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 48
EAST PORTLAND / HAPPY VALLEY

For Immediate Release
March 21, 2013

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House Education Committee hears Career and Technical Student Organization Rejuvenation Act.

SALEM – Calling on the legislature to support career technical education, Rep. Jeff Reardon (D-East Portland/Happy Valley) introduced HB 2985, a bi-partisan effort to revitalize career and technical student organizations, or CTSOs. The House Education Committee will hear the bill on March 27, 2013.

“CTSOs combine a bit of theory and ample practice to help students develop the technical and leadership skills necessary for success in the 21st century. Students get hands-on experience that enhances the classroom curriculum.”

House Bill 2985 establishes a Career and Technical Student Organization Grant Program to fund schools that want to expand their CTSO programs or create a new chapter. Currently, there are six CTSOs in Oregon: Future Business Leaders of America, SkillsUSA, Family Career and Community Leaders of America, DECA, Heath Occupation Students of America, and National Future Farmers of America. Over 9,000 Oregon students participate in these six organizations, in nearly 250 programs statewide.

“Career technical education is an area we have so often ignored, but local businesses are begging the legislature to find ways to prepare students for the work-force. Let’s meet their request and simultaneously provide the next generation with the motivation and skills needed for living-wage jobs,” Rep. Reardon remarked.

WHO: Rep. Jeff Reardon and House Education Committee

WHAT: House Education Committee hearing on HB 2985

WHEN: Wednesday, March 27, 2013 at 1:00 p.m.

WHERE: Oregon State Capitol, 900 Court Street NE Salem, OR 97301

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