Your help is needed in supporting CTE and skill centers in our state.

You may know that OSPI completed the administrative procedure last summer to implement the increased hours from 900 to 1000 as required by passage of 6552 in 2014. Details of FTE Change Presentation found in this power point.

This will reduce funding received by CTE this fall by an average 10% loss to middle and high school CTE FTE calculation, and an average of 12% for skill centers statewide. Resulting in an unsustainable funding model of having to staff each period at a 0.20 FTE with only 0.18 FTE to calculate program funding. Greater explanation found here.

As an advocate for increased quality CTE and career connected learning opportunities for all students I ask that you sponsor a budget proviso that puts this change on hold before it is implemented this fall. After implementation it will be much harder to correct after funds have been lost to CTE.

The Washington ACTE is asking for proviso language in the reconciliation process for the final supplemental budget for a “stop gap” of one school year holding CTE at the current formula for calculating FTE’s until the recommendations asked for in the language have an opportunity to be shared and enacted next session. (following language update 2/26/18)

“For the 2018-2019 school year district FTE as reported to OSPI for career and technical courses at high schools and skill centers will be increased by OSPI with a vocational FTE adjusted increase of 10% for career and technical courses at middle and high schools and a vocational FTE adjusted increase of 12% for skill centers.

Within existing resources, the superintendent of public instruction, shall review any projected school year 2018-2019 state funding impacts on middle and high school career and technical courses and skill center programs when compared to the state funding as allocated to CTE and skill center programs for the 2017-2018 school year, and what would have been realized without the FTE change. By September 1, 2018, a report with recommendations for a long-term solution shall be submitted to the governor and the legislature for consideration.”

Benefits of proviso:

- Allows investments to CTE and skill center programs in EHB 2242 to be realized at their full value.
- Prevents loss of CTE programs and staff in districts and skill centers
- Gives time to create a final solution.
- Supports the role of CTE and skill centers in the development of a career connected learning system in Washington.

I know this is very late in the game, continue our efforts to correct this impending problem with OSPI and have come to this language at this point.

Thank you for your consideration, we know many members from all four corners are supportive of a solution to this issue and has the support of PTA, LEV, Washington STEM and AWB if we can have someone like you lead on this proviso.

Our CTE contact in Olympia is Tim Knue, Washington ACTE Executive Director, and can be reached at 360-202-7296 (c); tim@wa-acte.org.