

**Oregon Semiconductor Coalition**  
**HB 4154: Creating Pathways to Equitable Opportunities for All Oregonians**

Talking Points  
1-22-24

**A GENERATIONAL OPPORTUNITY FOR OREGONIANS**

- As a result of historic action by the Oregon Legislature and Gov. Kotek, Oregon is expecting roughly \$40 billion in new semiconductor-related investment over the next several years.
- Semiconductor companies receiving Oregon CHIPS funding project 6,300 new jobs in the semiconductor industry and 1,000 construction jobs will be created over the next several years. These jobs will be available to Oregonians at all education levels.
- These investments are conditioned on CHIPS Act approval, as well as a very real need for workers. If we do not take urgent action to prepare Oregon's workforce, we risk losing projects that have been announced.
- Preparing diverse Oregonians from every part of the state to take advantage of jobs in the semiconductor industry ensures that our residents have a chance to take advantage of meaningful opportunities in a high-wage, equitable industry. Oregonians from all ages and backgrounds deserve the opportunity to share their talents with the world.

**ALIGNS WITH FEDERAL AND STATE INITIATIVES**

- Regaining global leadership in the development and manufacturing of semiconductors is among the top priorities of the White House and Congressional leaders. It is a matter of critical interest to our economic and national security. Oregon is widely recognized as a leading state in the semiconductor industry and has an opportunity to meaningfully contribute to this national effort.
- To meet the requirements of the CHIPS Act, industry applicants must demonstrate a clear commitment from public sector partners to support workforce development. It is critical that Oregon provide meaningful investment to ensure that industry can fill jobs.
- The Commerce Secretary has clearly stated that workforce development – at the high school, community college, university and apprenticeship levels – is a critical component of CHIPS Act success. In a speech at Purdue University in 2023, the Secretary specifically highlighted and praised Oregon's collaborative approach to semiconductor workforce development – but urged us to do even more.

## **LEVERAGES AND EXPANDS EXISTING PARTNERSHIPS AND PROGRAMS**

- Oregon community colleges, universities and K-12 STEM organizations and programs are rapidly innovating new approaches to prepare the next generation of Oregonians to secure jobs in these fields.
- The semiconductor coalition has developed a strategy to build on the successful model created through Future Ready Oregon, creating partnerships and alignment among industry, education, and community-based partners to create inclusive career pathways that meet the talent needs of industry partners.
- A statewide semiconductor consortium, composed of representatives from the semiconductor industry, education institutions, workforce organizations, and community-based organizations, will create sustained partnership and collaboration around critical talent needs of industry to create employment opportunities, advance a more diverse workforce, and improve the productivity of the industry. The semiconductor consortium will work with the HECC to develop a comprehensive statewide strategy to guide investments and build semiconductor education pathways and research capabilities.
- In 2024 the Legislature will consider a range of investments to increase the state's capacity to meet the workforce and research needs of the industry:
  - \$5M for STEM Education and Work-based learning
  - \$5M for Community College Workforce Training
  - \$5M for Advanced Degrees and Research
  - \$14.9M in one-time, direct allocations to community colleges and universities to kick-start strategic investments in infrastructure, faculty, and curriculum to meet the needs of the semiconductor industry.