



October 2, 2019

The Honorable Stephanie Kunze
Chair, Ohio Senate Higher Education Committee
Statehouse
1 Capitol Square
Columbus, Ohio 43215

RE: Senate Bill 181 Letter of Support

Dear Chair Kunze:

On behalf of the nearly 8,000 members of the Ohio Chamber of Commerce, I write to you in support of Senate Bill 181; legislation that would create a template workforce-education partnership program.

Consistently, we hear from our members that they are struggling to fill workforce shortages. We believe that SB 181 has the potential to assist employers with filling those workforce shortages in a potentially creative manner. Additionally, this program has the potential in driving down the burden student loans put on individuals pursuing higher education.

Workforce development is a particularly difficult issue in part because there is not one single solution to solve workforce shortages currently facing Ohio businesses. SB 181 takes an innovative approach to attempt to solve this issue. It remains to be seen if this template would be able to be replicated statewide, but there is a lot of potential with a program such as this.

For these reasons, we urge you to support SB 181. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions regarding our support at kboehner@ohiochamber.com or 614-228-4201.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kevin Boehner". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kevin Boehner
Director, Small Business and Workforce Policy