



**Ohio House Primary & Secondary
Education Committee
SB89 Proponent Testimony**

**Testimony of Dr. Joseph Glavan, Educational Director
Lake Shore Career-Technical Planning District**

Chair Jones, Vice Chair Manchester, Ranking Member Robinson, and members of the Ohio House Primary and Secondary Education Committee, thank you for the opportunity to present proponent testimony today on SB89. My name is Joe Glavan, and I am the Career-Technical Education Director for Lake Shore Compact. Lake Shore is a Compact Career-Technical Planning District which includes the public schools of Mentor, Euclid and Wickliffe City - Mentor being the lead district. Compacts share delivery and costs through service agreements between multiple school districts. Additionally, I am the current Secretary of the Ohio Association of Comprehensive and Compact Career-Technical Schools (Ohio CCS). Ohio CCS represents Ohio's 40 Compact and Comprehensive career-technical planning districts in the State of Ohio. Once again, I appreciate the opportunity to speak with you today regarding SB89, which directly impacts students participating in Ohio's career-technical education programs no matter the delivery system.

Career Technical Education is seeing a resurgence in our country today due to an increased work force skills gap. Due to these deficits, the need for Career Technical Education has never been clearer and I am excited to say that Ohio is leading the charge at not only acknowledging that the deficit exists, but meeting it head on. Lt. Governor Husted has said "Ohio's economy has a lot of things working in its favor right now, but if we are going to reach our full potential and make our state more attractive to new businesses, we have to close our skills gap. If we get this right, we will give job creators the talent they need to expand, and we'll give Ohioans more personal opportunity and the chance to grow their careers." Following the lead of Governor DeWine and Lt. Governor Husted, Career Technical Education Associations and the Ohio Department of Education have focused on meeting the skills gap through strategic collaborations between business, education, and government. Aligned and committed to addressing Ohio's workforce gap, organizations have focused on industry recognized credentials and other skill attainments that are not only needed to address the skills gap in Ohio, but can help students gain employment in rewarding careers...right here in Ohio.

A student walking the halls of Mentor High School today has the ability to choose between various pathways that can lead to an industry recognized credential. A few of the available credentials include a State Tested Nursing Assistant (STNA) license, an Emergency Medical Technician License, Firefighter 1 and 2, welding certifications from the American Welding Society, an Environmental Protection Agency 608 certification, CompTIA Networking, and CompTIA Security. Student also have the ability to enter pre-apprenticeships in areas of need including manufacturing and the trades. The credentials I just listed represent more than just acronyms, they represent future Ohio Nurses, Fire

Fighters, CNC Machinists, Heating Ventilation Air Conditioning Technicians, Computer Programmers, and Network Specialists.

Many of these credentials I mentioned may sound familiar and that is intentional. Many of the credentials we are providing through Career Technical Education have also been identified by businesses in Ohio as in demand through the Office of Workforce Development and Tech Cred. Again, unified in our approach to address the workforce gap in Ohio. Business, education and government, aligned.

SB89 would continue this alignment and recognize that skill attainment can be demonstrated by more than just taking tests. Under SB89, students would be able to demonstrate skill obtainment through earning an industry recognized credential or a license issued by a state. Both would be considered an acceptable measure of technical skill attainment and will not require a student with such credential or license to take additional technical assessments or tests.

Not all credentials are equal which is why SB89 tasks the department of education to develop, in consultation with the Ohio association for career and technical education, the Ohio association of career-technical superintendents, Ohio Association of Comprehensive and Compact Career-Technical Schools, and other stakeholders, procedures for identifying industry-recognized credentials and licenses aligned to a student's career-technical education program that can be used as an acceptable measure of technical skill. In addition, we would review the possibility of attaining college credit as a factor when identifying an acceptable measure of technical skill.

SB89 would not only reinforce the partnerships between education, business, and government, but continue our efforts to address the workforce gap in Ohio and strengthen pathways to rewarding careers for students in Ohio.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SB89, and I'm willing to answer any questions you may have.